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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Memoirs of Eminent Englishwomen. By Louisa Stuart Costello, author of "A Summer among the Bocages," &c. 2 vols. 8vo. R. Bentley.

THERE seems to be a run upon productions of this kind, occasioned, no doubt, by the success of several which have issued from the press and been well received by the public. Such being the case, we have nothing to say against it; and when such isolated portions of historical biography are enriched from hitherto unquoted documents, they may in reality throw considerable light on obscure passages which have led to preceding misrepresentations. When merely compilations, however cleverly done, they cannot be considered as aught but sheer book-making.

Miss Costello's acknowledged talent, and rank in literature as a female writer, would assure us that her work must belong to the former and better class; and if in some of the memoirs we find too great a leaning to the former (which, indeed, it was impossible to help, since one cannot make bricks without materials), we must forgive the compilatory in credit for the original intelligence.

But the title seems to us to be very strange and inapplicable. "*Eminent*," defined in our dictionaries to be "high," "lofty," "dignified"—like "eminence," a title given to the cardinals, in honour, perhaps, of their possessing all the cardinal virtues (!)—is, to say the least, curiously addressed to some of the ladies who figure in these pages. The well-known Elizabeth Hardwick, Countess of Shrewsbury, was, indeed, conspicuous for four husbands, a mania for building, an overbearing temper, and a quarrel with the last of her lot (the gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots), which wrecked his fortunes and made the close of his life miserable. Then we have Penelope Lady Rich, the sister of Queen Elizabeth's Essex—a "fair enthusiastic creature," says our author, who "abandoned her husband for her lover" (Blount, Lord Mountjoy), and afterwards married him, but so unfortunately that, "as his secretary, Fynes Morison, expresses it, 'grief for unsuccessful love brought him to his last end,' for he died, after nine days of fever, in great pain both of body and mind, leaving his

'Fair and fatal enemy'

a fortune of fifteen hundred a year, and eternal regret."

But these, not to notice others, are "eminent" when compared with the infamous Countess of Somerset, whose memoir is thus truly opened:—"The history of the life of this unfortunate beauty is a record of sin, shame, and wretchedness." Bad eminence for a selection of "*Eminent Englishwomen*;" but in these matters taste must give way to publishing titles; and a taking, sonorous name is now as much looked for as a really good work,—for, herein, a rose by any other name would not smell as sweet.

Miss Costello has, for reasons assigned in her introduction, chosen not to begin before the age of Elizabeth; holding that no records which could be depended upon existed relating to previous periods. We are inclined to think,

however, that earlier times might have been found as full of true, and as little tainted with erroneous, information respecting illustrious female ornaments of England. Nor are we disposed to agree with the author on another point, that women took a higher stand in the scale of society and merit after "*the avatar*" of that queen, whom she herself paints in the darkest colours,* "had given them dignity and importance." But these are only differences of opinion on views which have been always disputed, and we do not urge them against our fair friend and accomplished writer. At any rate, the succeeding reign does not appear to have sustained the feminine dignity, &c. alluded to, for we are told:—"The letters of some of the old courtiers, on the subject of the strange manners introduced, would be amusing, but for the disgusting impression necessarily formed of the actors in scenes such as would disgrace a country wake; lords and ladies of rank, for instance, rolling about in intoxication at the foot of the throne, while the reeling sovereign is carried off to his coach amongst the tipsy uproar of this rabble-rout of favourites who surrounded him."

After all, these were but the manners of a gross age (like those of Tartar conquerors boasting of being drunk with their whole staff of officers for a month together); and it is a want of the comprehensiveness so essential to history, to test them by later and more decorous feelings and conduct. And surely the reign of Charles II. will not uphold the theory of the improved dignity of the female character: in short, it would be no easy task to fix the date of vast improvement emanating from the aforesaid *avatar* of Elizabeth.

The first life is that of the Countess of Shrewsbury, the architect of Chatsworth, Hardwick Hall, and Owl-cots, who was certainly a remarkable person in her day. Having access to the muniments of the Devonshire family, Miss Costello (though chiefly indebted to the researches of Lodge) has produced some documents which we do not remember to have seen before, and which occasionally bear on the cruel imprisonment of the betrayed and unhappy Mary Stuart. Here is a passage of deep interest:—

"The mother of Darnley, and grandmother of Arabella Margaret Countess of Lennox, died in the year 1578, as this letter of Queen Mary's announces to Beaton, archbishop of Glasgow, her ambassador in France. May 2, 1578.—The Countess of Lenox, my mother-in-law, died about a month ago, & the Q. of E^d has taken into her care her ladyship's granddaughter (Arabella S.). I wd^d desire those who

* "It would almost seem (she says) that Elizabeth had no feminine weakness but one—her inordinate vanity; but, although apt to be influenced by it in small matters, her overpowering sense got the better even of that besetting sin when great events required her to act. When all her grandeur of intellect, her promptness, wisdom, and resolution, are considered, this bluish on her *mannly* qualities, ought to be looked upon with indulgence, if it does not altogether redeem her reputation, for it was the only *female* trait she allowed to appear. Tenderness, softness, pity, and forgiveness, were unknown to her mind; and but for her vanity, she would have been scarcely woman or human"—in short, a fiend!!

are about my son to make instances in his name for this succession, not for any desire I have that he sh^d actually succeed to it, but rather to testify that neither he nor I ought to be reputed or treated as foreigners in England, who are both born within the same isle. This good lady was, thank God, in very good correspondence with me these 5 or 6 years bygone, and has confessed to me, by sundry letters under her hand, w^h I carefully preserve, the injury she did me by the unjust pursuits w^h she allowed to go against me in her name, thro' bad information, but principally, she said, thro' the express orders of the Q. of E^d, and the persuasions of her council, who took much solicitude that we might never come to good understanding together. But as soon as she came to know of my innocence, she desisted from any further pursuit against me," &c. This fact (adds Miss C.) is of great importance in the history of Mary's life, and ought to be convincing evidence of her innocence of her husband's murder."

But there is more novelty in the annexed exposition:—

"The following extract from a letter of Gilbert Talbot's is very characteristic:—'1578, 3d May.—I happened,' says he, 'to walke in the Tytle-yarde under the gallery where her Ma^{tie} usethe to stande to see the runing at tytle; whereby chance she was, and lookinge oute of the wyndowe, my eye was full towards her, and she shewed to be greatly ashamed thereof, for that she was unreddy, and in her nightstufte; so when she saw me after dynner, as she went to walke, she gave me a great phylupp on the forehead, and tould my l. chamberlayne, who was the next to her, how I had seen her that mornyng, and howe much ashamed thereof she was. And after I presented unto her the remembrans of your l. and my la^s bounden duty and s^{vis}; and sayde y^t you bothe thoughte yo^selves moste bounden to her for her moste grasious delyage towards yo^r daughter, my la. of Lennox: and y^t you assuredly trusted in the continuans of her favorable goodnes to her and her daughter. And she answered that she allwayes founde you more thankefull than she gave cause; so without saying any more thereof, asked of bothe your healthes, and so wente on and spake to others.' It is not a little strange to remark, on all occasions, how full of coquetry and vanity was the wise queen whose fiat decided the fate of Europe. Any thing approaching to admiration of her person at once gained her attention, and the appearance of devotion was sure to attract her friendship. It would seem that the son of the Earl of Shrewsbury had been some time at court without having by any fortunate accident drawn upon him her regard; no report of good qualities would probably have caused her to notice him, whatever good looks might have done; but it was sufficient that she imagined her person had excited his anxious admiration, to make her treat him at once with pleased familiarity and kindness. The young man seems delighted with the good fortune likely to dawn upon him, and writes to his father in great spirits, recounting his adventure, which was one peculiarly likely to

give satisfaction to the vain queen, who, of course, did not attribute the earnest gaze she surprised to mere chance; but pictured to herself an enamoured youth who had, perhaps, stationed himself day after day beneath her window, fondly hoping that the goddess of his adoration would at length appear and bless his longing eyes. The start, and blush, and probable confusion, she must have observed in him when he found that he had intruded into precincts hallowed by the presence of her majesty, were mistaken by her for terror at being discovered by the object of his flame, while in secret offering up his prayers at her shrine; and a series of flirtations, more worthy of some 'light o' love,' than a grave severe monarch, ensues. She giggles, blushes, screams, pretends to be in great agitation, is shocked to death at being detected in an undress, which she nevertheless trusts is becoming—tries to escape, and has hardly courage to quit the casement beneath which kneels, with his hand on his heart, and his eyes suddenly bent on the ground, the enslaved culprit. She retires, and, of course, immediately inquires who the young man is who thus evidently steals at early morning towards the place she inhabits, only existing in the hope that she, his sun, will rise and shine upon him, though but for an instant, he unseen. There would not be wanting waiting-ladies enough to encourage this agreeable delusion, and the gratified dupe thinks herself happy in adding another hopeless adorer to her train. They meet again, and then comes the triumph of her vanity; she coquettes with the bashful stranger, makes him a mark to all, and then recounts to her ministers her adventure of the morning, amidst feigned confusion, blushes, and pretty hesitations. Could this be the harsh, cold, unfeeling woman, who at that moment knew her wretched and lovely prisoner was suffering every privation in the custody of that young man's father! His name alone should have roused her remorse, if not her pity, and checked the unseemly levity of her deportment. The image of Mary should have risen before her, shivering with cold, shrinking from the harsh winds of the north, in a dilapidated tower, the walls of which streamed with damp, in a bleak, desolate spot where no May flowers gladdened the heart with a promise of hope and summer-days to come; where no eyes gazed on that beauty which had enslaved the gayest court in Europe; where not a kind word, a gentle look, cheered the utter horror of her solitude, and where even necessities were denied her. The sun of May shone not on the towers of gloomy, ruined Tutbury, where Mary wept; but Elizabeth could smile, and flirt, and render herself ridiculous with her jailor's son!"

Miss Costello frequently repeats the spirit of these remarks; as again in the case of Lady Rich's lover, which we need not cite.

The memoir of Arabella Stuart has unluckily been much anticipated within the last two months by Mr. James and Mr. Fraser Tytler: it is nevertheless a well-written biography, of which we may call attention to two passages. Speaking of King James, Miss C. observes:—

"There are few instances of his exhibiting this liberality, except to favourites and dependants, generally as unworthy and selfish as himself; yet, even towards them, his native meanness sometimes burst forth, when he found to what an extent his open-handedness had been betrayed by his ignorance. Carr, his first favourite after he came to England—a man probably rendered wicked and worthless by the strange position into which fortune had

thrust him—having obtained from his weak and doating master a peremptory warrant to the treasurer for twenty thousand pounds, that minister, foreseeing the future inability of the exchequer to answer demands so enormous, and, says Osborn who relates the story, 'apprehending that the king was as ignorant of the worth of what was demanded as of the desert of the person who begged it, and knowing that a pound, upon the Scottish account, would not pay for the shoeing of a horse, by which his master might be farther led out of the way of thrift than in his nature he was willing to go, made as much parade as possible in preparing the money for payment; for he had the gold placed in heaps on the floor of the apartment through which the king must necessarily pass.' The contrivance succeeded; for it was impossible that James could fail to observe so conspicuous an object. He paused in astonishment; and, gazing on the glittering treasure in amazement, begged the lord treasurer to inform him to whom so large a sum belonged; the answer filled him with consternation, for Cecil hastened to say, that it was his own until he gave it away. James, seized with astonishment and anger, gave way to a burst of passion, and, with many exclamations, threw himself upon the heap, vowing that Carr should have no more than he then grasped in his hands. The treasurer then, thinking it politic to steer a middle course between the king and his favourite, represented that his royal promise being given, he was not at liberty to break it altogether; and the affair ended in the disappointed minion getting an inconsiderable part of the original sum, which, however, could ill enough be spared at such a time."

To us there seems to be no proof of "native meanness" in this anecdote.—The other is an historical correction. When the prince palatine pleaded for the release of Arabella, we read:—"Mr. D'Israeli, in his interesting account of her, by a strange oversight, represents poor Arabella at this time as appearing in splendid robes, worth fifteen hundred pounds, at the count palatine's marriage. Alas! the distracted prisoner in the tower, for whom the bridegroom pleaded in vain, was not in a situation to 'ruin herself,' or others, by the extravagance of her apparel!"

The other lives are of Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke; Francis Howard, Duchess of Richmond (simply a vain foolish person); the Queen of Bohemia; the second Countess of Essex ("a malicious piece of vanity"); Lady Fanshawe; and Countesses of Bedford, Devonshire, and Dorset; whose various vices and virtues furnish agreeable subject-matter enough for memoirs differing in length from a few pages to nearly half a volume.

The work is also adorned with ten portraits, of which the most interesting is one (if authentic) of Queen Mary, beautiful, at the age of sixteen. Most of the others show that, whatever were their characters, whether sordid or liberal, hardhearted or soft, our great grandmothers had (at least from the painters) bosoms to feel for humanity. Perhaps the most remarkable of all is the Lady Arabella, when under two years of age, with a doll, but dressed in all the wiggery and stiffness of a woman of fifty. It is hardly possible to conceive a child so absurdly encumbered,—she must have had as much motion as a turtle.

Having recently reviewed the contemporary works, already mentioned, of Mr. James and Mr. Tytler, we refrain from farther extracts from or remarks on Miss Costello's volumes; which we can vouch for being executed with

the usual taste and skill which have rendered her former performances so meritedly popular.

A Practical Treatise on Brewing, based on Chemical and Economical Principles; with Formulae for Public Brewers, and Instructions for Private Families. By William Black, Practical Brewer. 8vo, pp. 212. London, Longman and Co.

THIS is a third edition, enlarged and improved; and since we said so much in favour of the work when it originally appeared, we might be excused for saying no more on its phoenix-like revival. But brewing is a very useful art; and wholesome drink not only a luxury to the rich, but a necessary to the industrial portions of the community—we must omit the Temperance associates, who, like Ophelia, have enough of water. Our author, however, is not of their body corporate, neither is he of the Apothecaries' Company,—for though Black by name, he is nothing for black drafts, but all for the pure and bright concoction of malt and hops, be it in ale or porter, small beer or stout.

Since 1835 and 1840, when the former editions were published, considerable advance has been made in the chemistry of brewing, as in all other branches of chemistry; and it was only in our *Gazette* No. 1411, that we reported an interesting lecture by Prof. Brande at the Royal Institution on the subject. In some minor points we observe that our practical friend dissents from the theoretical views of the learned professor; but his main battery is levelled at the want of uniformity in beer; and his endeavour is, to convince brewers that, with proper observation and care, they may remove the causes which produce an inferior or bad brewage, when the materials are the same, and there is every reason to expect as sound a produce as before. It appears that an induced action of electricity contributes chiefly to this undesirable result.

"Should the work (says Mr. Black) be the means of drawing the attention of brewers in general, not only to the injurious effects of electro-chemical action, but also to other causes which prevent successful fermentations, and thus introduce a more scientific and a more uniformly certain system of brewing than has been hitherto established, the author's object will be accomplished. It is impossible to describe in writing the different aromas and appearances, so as to make them intelligible, according to our own sentiments on the subject. We have, however, endeavoured to give as much information as possible, in plain, simple language, so as to suit every capacity: but it is only as they may occur in practice that the different appearances and aromas, indicative of good or bad fermentations, can be described and pointed out; and no one should pretend to possess a thorough knowledge of brewing, until he can at once discover and rectify every thing which happens unfavourable to the desired result,—the production of good sound malt-liquor."

The following, by the way of general information, may be quoted:—

"In buying malt, a good judge, on taking up a handful, examines narrowly the different pickles, to ascertain if the spire be well grown, that is, at least two-thirds up the back of the pickle; he also looks for sleepers or dead corns which have not sprung at all. Should there be many of these, he will probably reject the malt. But a mode of judging of malt which is very good, is one that is old and simple. Count out indiscriminately from the bulk about 200

pickles; throw them into a tumbler of cold water and stir them; the pickles thoroughly malted will float horizontally on the surface, those half-malted will float vertically, one end hanging down, and the unmalted will sink to the bottom. We can thus at once form an accurate estimation of the quality of any malt. The next thing we have to attend to, is the weight of malt. Barley, in the process of maling, loses rather more than one-fifth its weight; the malt consequently should be lighter in the same proportion than the barley from which it is made. Some time ago about 40 lbs. per bushel was thought a maximum weight for malt, and many would not have bought it if above that weight. Now, however, from superior culture, the quality of barley has been very much improved; and fine samples may be found weighing 56 or 57 lbs. per bushel. The finest malt from such barley will weigh about 43 or 44 lbs. per bushel; and if it be really all malt, its value may be determined by its weight, the heavier malt always yielding the greater produce. Still the final criterion must be the specific gravity of the worts as determined by the hydrometer or saccharometer. There are fewer husks proportionally in heavy than in light malt; and according to the weight and paucity of husks will be the extract in the mash-tuns."

After some peculiar demonstrations, Mr. Black observes:—

"This distinctly shews that success in brewing depends, in the first place, very much on the construction of the brewhouse and utensils. When these, therefore, are properly constructed, and a correct system of brewing has been introduced and persisted in, nothing but want of attention or bad materials (such as defective malt and hops) used in brewing can prevent unvarying regularity in the process of fermentation, followed also by unvarying uniformity in the quality of the beer. Since our last publication it has been ascertained, that when placed in a negative vessel, worts will remain sound for a much longer time than when put into a positive vessel. But when the gyle-tuns are in a negative state, the fermentations will go on very languidly, and occasionally become quite stationary; while on the contrary, under a different state of electro-chemical action, they will go on violently and uncontrollably, but without the due attenuation."

Of the great London brewers we are told:—

"London has always been celebrated for the peculiar flavour and excellence of its porter: for a long time it was supposed that this was mainly attributable to its being brewed with the water from the Thames; but as Thames water has for a long time ceased to be used in brewing it, that supposition has been abandoned. As each establishment, however, has its own peculiar flavour, and differing in some respects from all others, it becomes difficult to say which is the right London flavour; and we greatly doubt whether any jury of twelve would agree upon this point: each would, very likely, give the preference to that he had been most accustomed to."

In conclusion, Mr. Black contends that "want of success in brewing must be due to other causes than those to which it is generally attributed, viz. the great uncertainty attending the process of fermentation. If it be admitted that brewing is a chemical process, it must be subservient to the same laws which govern other chemical operations; and, under precisely similar circumstances, the same effects will necessarily be produced. If, therefore, we succeed in one instance, nothing but diversity in

the materials used, atmospherical changes which may be counteracted, or in some part of the operations performed, can prevent our arriving invariably at the same results. Fermentation is undoubtedly as delicate a process, and perhaps as little understood, as any other connected with chemistry; but upon a regular and successful fermentation, or the contrary, must depend the good or bad quality of the beer. Such trifling causes, however, affect this process, that a brewer must not only have a distinct and extensive knowledge of chemistry, but also be what is termed a good manipulator, with great skill in the operative department of the business, before he can reasonably expect to brew uniformly good beer."—"The principal danger is always to be apprehended from electro-chemical or galvanic action, which we have not as yet found any other means of counteracting than by removing the cause. By this action, whenever it exists, we are opposed from the beginning to the end of the process; and during its continuance, no regularity or command over the fermentation need be expected. We cannot, therefore, be too careful in the construction of new brewhouses, or in the alteration of older concerns, to avoid all mixtures of metals in connexion with the utensils, and particularly with regard to the fermenting-tuns."

To his own extensive practice the author has added the science of Professor Graham in overlooking his work; and we need hardly add, that it is in every respect entitled to the attention of brewers, be they great or small, millionaire capitalists, or heads of economic families.*

The Natural History of the County of Stafford, &c.

By Robert Garner, F.L.S. 8vo, pp. 551. London, Van Voorst.

HANDSOMELY embellished as the generality of Mr. Van Voorst's publications are, this volume contains a great deal of topographical and antiquarian as well as of scientific information relating to the county of Stafford. It is, perhaps, somewhat unnecessarily enlarged by dissertations on the various branches of which it treats, shewing that the writer has been a diligent student of their later progress, but rather out of place in a county history. These will not, however, make it the less acceptable to the general reader, nor to the good folks of Staffordshire.

Dr. Plot's history, a century and a half ago, is old enough to render a new one expedient; and Mr. Garner has, on the whole, successfully exerted himself to supply the demand. The nature of his work puts quotation to any extent, by way of example, out of the question, and four short pieces must limit our notice.

First in topography:—

Wolverhampton is the largest town in the county, and "was originally called Hampton, till the Saxon Lady Wulftruna built a monastery here, in the reign of Ethelred, when it was named after her. The old church has a fine tower, one hundred and twenty feet high, ornamented with panels, rows of quatrefoils, battlement, and pinnacles; the nave and transepts are ancient, and perhaps the chancel, though it has modern windows of unsuitable style, as is the one inserted into the fine opening on the east side of the south transept; there is also a handsome window at the west end of the building filled with stained glass. Dr. Oliver thinks

* There are 30,300 beerhouses licensed to sell beer to be drunk on the premises, and 4,338 not to be drunk there.

the tower and nave were built in the fourteenth century: the nave has a clerestory, and the ceiling of the south aisle is groined. One of the chapels or transepts attached to the tower was anciently called St. Catherine's, now Lane's chapel; it contains a fine altar—and other tombs to the Lanes, particularly one to the faithful and loyal Colonel Lane; the former has the recumbent statues of a warrior and his lady; the male figure is 'in plate harness, with an apron of chain mail, the head bare, and round his neck a well-starched ruff; his clasped gauntlets are placed at his feet; the lady has a lap-dog at her feet; this is the monument of Thomas Lane, who died in 1582. The latter is a remarkable mural tablet, the front below embellished with carvings of body armour, matchlocks, pikes, pennons, swords, &c., and on the side is a representation of the oak-tree in which Charles II. was preserved at Boscobel. In the other chapel, called Leveson's, is an altar-tomb to John Leveson and Joyce his wife, 1575; the remarkable statue in bronze of Admiral Leveson, who served against the Spanish Armada, was the work of Le Sueur (who also founded that of Charles I. at Charing Cross): this, like that of Charles, was taken away in the civil wars, but was fortunately secured by Lady Leveson of Trentham. In fact this church, like Lichfield Cathedral, suffered much in these times of fanatical violence."—"From the inventory of the church property in 33 Henry VIII., amongst many other curious items are the following belonging to this church: It. Amongst the relics, of one image of sylver, and overgilt, with a glass therein, and a thorn, weying five ounces and a quarter. It. A cross of wood, with sylver thereabout, not weyed, which was called parcel of the wholly cross. It. One round thing like a box of sylver, and gilt, wherein it is said should be enclosed a piece of the wholly candle, not weyed. It. Another box of sylver like a salt with birral, not weyed. It. Our Ladye's shoes were sold for 8s. 4d."

In the natural history portion we read:—

"*Bull-dog*.—Feroocious, and obstinately retaining its bite. Some have a fifth claw on the hind feet. The colliers of south Staffordshire, who are noted for a pure brinded variety of this ferocious dog, in general cruelly draw the incisor teeth, enabling it to bite deeper. They also cut the ears close.

"*Mastiff*.—The English mastiff was celebrated even in the Roman amphitheatre for its noble courage. Whilst the bull-dog attacks 'with insidious silence,' the mastiff barks before he bites, and, unlike the former, is 'susceptible of great attachment.'"

We believe that bull-dogs are as much attached to their coistermonger and other Bill-Sykes owners as the most petted lap-dogs and spaniels are to their mistresses.

"Several instances are on record where the domestic hen has, in old age, put on the plumage of the cock, had spurs, crowed, &c. We are informed by a gentleman, whose observations we can rely upon, of a pea-hen, which has, at the present time, put on the plumage of the peacock."

Lastly, in botany:—"The uses and properties of lichens are probably imperfectly known. *Lecanora parvella*, a not uncommon species, produces a beautiful dye; as does also *l. tartarea* (cudbear), which is found on our moors. Orchill is produced by a species of *roccella*. *Parmelia saxatilis* is sometimes used by mountaineers to dye yarn; and *squamaria candelaria*, according to Linnaeus, is used in Sweden to stain candles employed in religious ceremonies.

Variolaria faginea, common on our old beeches, is intensely bitter, and contains a great proportion of oxalic acid. *Cetraria Islandica* is the valuable Iceland moss; and the little plant *cladonia rangiferina*, common on all our heaths, is of the greatest value to the Laplanders, though known to few but botanists in England. The virtues attributed to *peltidea*, as a remedy in the thrush and in hydrophobia, are probably imaginary. A few other species, however, appear to have medicinal power. Lichens are more numerous even than mosses.*

Wanderings in Spain in 1843. By M. Haverty, Esq. 2 vols. London, Newby.

THERE are some books which would be much better if their writers would consider what had been published in many a shape before, and made their subjects familiar as household words to the reading public. And this is one of them. The new matter bears no proportion to the old; and so far from avoiding the repetition of well-known matters, Mr. Haverty has contented himself with going again over much trodden ground, and making a *réchauffé* instead of an original entertainment.

His dedication is (as far as we are aware) to some great unknown, whom he addresses as his "dear Maccabe," and whose "high literary attainments and reputation" he eulogises in the warmest style; and his anti-English sentiments may be surmised from the annexed specimen, descriptive of his visit to Gibraltar:

"When first I observed the giant-form of the hill of Tarik rising isolated from the ocean, and dimly visible through a grey mist, like some spirit of the deep, and reflected that I looked on Calpe—on one of the fabled pillars of Alcides, at the gate of the Atlantic, but which was now a British fortress, with British cannon bristling from its ramparts of living rock, and the British flag floating from the signal-staff on its summit,—I could not help acknowledging something like a feeling of humiliation mingled with the interest which by that glorious object was inspired. I felt that I was no Briton; and that the memory of centuries of injury inflicted by Britain on my own humbled, oppressed, beloved country forbade me, in the presence of British power, to feel pride in British glory. I for once half regretted the alienation of the heart from such a country. I was grieved for a moment that allegiance to the crown of England, apart from any peculiar merit the wearer of that crown might possess, was for me, an Irishman, but an obligation of cold duty, in which no warm feeling of the bosom could participate."

This passage will afford the key to most of Mr. Haverty's feelings and opinions. Why he should ever have left the side of our old friend Tom Steele, or taken his individuality from the aggregate mass of monster meetings, is to us a mystery. However, he did pass into "the Rock" under the name and unwilling disguise of a British subject. But previous to this, he

had met with a veteran who had belonged to Hoche's celebrated expedition, upon which his lucubrations are characteristic and novel. He tells us:—

"I adjourned with my new acquaintance, who had seen the shores of old Ireland from the rigging of a French fleet, to talk, over a glass of wine, about all that happened and all that might have happened. The Italians remember without regret, thought I, the inroads of Napoleon in their country, notwithstanding all the blood which flowed in his footsteps. He would have given free and enlightened institutions to Spain, if the admirers of hereditary despotism and its foreign supporters had permitted. Switzerland still subsists with the constitution which Napoleon gave her. Sweden retains the king he sent her; and the German States which he erected are not the worse to-day for having been rescued by that great man from the absolutism of ages. Who, then, can say but he might have given liberty, with a happy and successful constitution, to our own country also? Had he effected a descent on Ireland, instead of undertaking his unfortunate expedition to Russia, the Emerald Island might be at this day a separate and independent nation, his deadliest foe would have been crushed, and his dynasty now perhaps fixed upon the throne of France. But it is an idle speculation to talk of what merely 'might have happened' in such a case."

So far from being idle, we think it extremely amusing: few pages in the work are more so. But, to leave this branch of Hiberno-Gallic sympathies, we shall proceed at once to Alhama for a picture of Spanish life:—

"In Alhama we alighted at the *Posada Grande*, which might literally mean the head inn; and as it is a genuine specimen of a Spanish inn of that class, let the reader compare it with the 'hotels' of his own country.* In the first place we rode in at the grand entrance, and found ourselves, still *à caballo*, in the great saloon of the hotel. It was paved just in the same fashion as the street, and was very long in proportion to its width. At the extremity nearest the entrance were half-a-dozen *borricos* (asses) regaling themselves on some rough fodder, and at the other end was the fire, round which sat a group of dark figures, some of whom were concealed from time to time by a cloud of smoke, as a handful of green twigs was occasionally cast into the flames. Having dismounted, the mules, snorting with satisfaction, found their way into an inner apartment, where young Lanza saw them well cared [for]. For my part, I proceeded to make my way towards the fire; but in doing so, I nearly stumbled over some black object on the floor, which I perceived to be a man enveloped in his capa, and sleeping on a couple of empty bags spread on the hard, rough pavement. The fire blazed on a large square hearth, raised a few inches above the floor, and at a distance from the wall, so that persons were enabled to sit round it, some on forms, some on blocks of stone, &c.

that were placed as immovable seats behind the fire; and the smoke was received by a kind of bell-mouthed chimney above, somewhat in the same style as we find in mud-built houses in Ireland. An old peasant civilly made room for me on the stone seats behind the fire; and here, when the smoke chanced not to take my side, I had an opportunity of surveying the groups around. There was no laughter or loud conversation among them; and our entrance seemed not to have in any way given a new direction to their attention."

A gipsy fellow sung a dirge-like song, and accompanied himself on the guitar, "absorbing the whole attention of the company, with the exception of what was bestowed on her culinary employment by a young sun-burnt girl, who was cooking some pasta with oil and garlic in a pan that she held over the flames by means of a long handle; whilst two or three of those between whom she endeavoured to press herself, assisted her by breaking the twigs from larger branches to feed the fire. Even the *sopa* and the fire were partly neglected for the impassioned and plaintive strains of the young mountaineer, which seemed 'like the memory of joys that are passed, pleasant and mournful to the soul;' and for my own part, although I had acquired a tolerably good appetite in crossing the Sierras all day, the invitation to supper, which called me away from that scene to the cold and cheerless apartment reserved for *caballeros* of distinction up-stairs, was scarcely welcome. *Au reste*, I may add that the supper I was thus summoned to was not of itself the most inviting. The first course consisted of eggs fried in bitter, rancid oil; the second of salad, prepared with the same oil, which would rather seem to have been extracted from the gall-nut than the olive; and the third course, or dessert, was no more than a few rotten oranges, for all the good fruit had been sent to Malaga for exportation. The woman of the house was greatly surprised that two of us could not have managed with a single knife, but she was still more shocked at our unreasonable demands when we asked for a second drinking-glass. I was equally surprised next morning when I found that for a bad bed in a cold room, and such wretched fare, the intrinsic value of which could not have been twopence, we were obliged to pay what was equivalent to more than three shillings each."

Our next extract gives the author's views of a bit of Spain of more than common interest to "British" readers:—

"In returning to Malaga, I travelled by the diligencia, which leaves Granada once a week, and passes through the ancient and picturesque but otherwise insignificant town of Loja. At a few miles from Granada the road traverses the extensive domain of the *Soto de Roma*, or Roman wood, which formerly belonged to Godoy, Prince of Peace, the unprincipled favourite of Charles IV., but was subsequently bestowed by Ferdinand VII. on the Duke of Wellington, to whom it still belongs, being under the care of his grace's agent, General O'Lawlor, a veteran Spanish officer. This splendid property, which comprises a vast tract of country extending for seven or eight miles in length by the banks of the Genil, through the most fertile portion of the Vega, has not been rendered very productive to its owner, or indeed to any one else; for it seems to be just as ill cultivated and as much neglected as any other land in Spain; but I believe that the charges made against the veteran O'Lawlor in the Marquis of Londonderry's account of his tour, relative to the mismanagement of the land, are as un-

* There are, we daresay, a hundred instances stated in the topographical division of this volume, which shew how much of interest and utility may be rescued from debasement and oblivion by the new BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, of which the first account was given in No. 1413 of the *Literary Gazette*. If one county in England offers so many cases of ancient founts converted into troughs, crosses literally trampled upon, the noblest remains of architecture being parts of stables and barns, old tombs desecrated, brasses and inscriptions altogether or partially obliterated, and all other kinds of antiquities—British, Roman, Saxon, Danish, Norman—to be redeemed from a state of spoliation and ruin, what scope must the whole island afford for the operations of such an institution!—Ed. L. G.

* "The *fonda*, the *posada*, and the *venta*, are three different classes of inns which are to be found in Spain. Of these the *fonda* is a real hotel, as the traveller is there provided with food and lodging; in the *posada* the latter accommodation only is afforded, and any thing in the way of diet is provided either by the traveller himself or sent for by the owners of the house to some neighbouring provision-shop. Finally, the *venta* is a house where diet and a bed are supplied, both generally of the very worst description; but the *venta* is always situated by the road-side, and not in any town or village. Many of the *ventas* in Spain are walled-in like fortresses, and loop-holed for musketry, and they are generally some of the gloomiest buildings imaginable."

just as they are insulting to the honour of that officer. The duke does not, I believe, trouble his head much about his fine Spanish estates, but the Marquis of Douro was expected to arrive there shortly; and it is not probable that they will be as much neglected by him as they have been by his father. I must say that the road which leads through his grace's lands is one of the very worst in Spain; and to a person who had not actually seen the coach pass over it, dragged as it is with extreme difficulty, and at a creeping pace, by ten mules, it would seem utterly impassable for such a vehicle. It is only by great care that the unfortunate passengers can escape receiving some severe bruises from the fearful and, to those who have not experienced it, incredible jolting to which the coach is every moment exposed. The coach put up at night in Loja, at a comparatively comfortable fonda, the type of the general arrangements of which was, however, to be found in the Posada Grande of Alhama. Here it is necessary for the traveller to provide himself with some provisions for the next day, as thence to Malaga he will not pass through any place where refreshments can be procured. In my case, however, this precaution happened to be of little use. I joined, indeed, my travelling companions in purchasing abundance of materials for an excellent breakfast, and an equally good dinner; and as they all seemed respectable fellows, I flattered myself with the prospect of being very comfortable in their society; but the hope was vain. When breakfast-hour arrived next day, a filthy cloth was spread on our knees in the coach; a roast turkey was produced, and torn, rather than cut, in pieces, with the assistance of large Andalusian knives and hands smeared with tobacco, which was in constant requisition; while with each jolt of the coach fragments of the dismembered fowl were scattered about the laps of the company, and thus made to collect a substitute for pepper in the finer dust of the 'grass-cut;' and, finally, the wine was drank from a goatskin bag, with a horn mouth-piece, which served all without the medium of any other drinking vessel. Without entering into a more minute description of the disgusting scene, which was repeated at dinner, I can only say that my own appetite failed so completely on both occasions, that I contrived to get to Malaga without encroaching on the *provisions de voyage*."

At Madrid we have notices of some of the public and courtly scenes witnessed by the author, which are the best portion of his book. They are illustrated by a portrait of the little Queen Isabel, represented as a pug face, and certainly no beauty, as a frontispiece to vol. i.; and another of Espartero, not very unlike our idea of Don Quixotte, for the second. The Princess Christina, her majesty's younger sister, is, on the contrary, painted in fascinating colours. At the opening of the Cortes "she appeared, as it were, to realise those images of beauty and splendour with which the imagination of youth peoples the realms of fairy-land. Although then little more than 11 years of age, she seemed to be moulded in beauty's fairest form; and with the gracefulness and simplicity of childhood, she smiled familiarly on all she knew around her, curtsying with exquisite grace, and looking eagerly, from time to time, towards the tribune over her head, where her attendants were, to exchange a friendly smile. The curiosity to see the princess was scarcely gratified before the young queen herself, accompanied by the regent, Espartero, and followed by the officers of the household, made

her appearance. She is by no means so beautiful as the infants, but is much fairer; her figure also is good, and her neck and arms worthy of a sculptor's study; and although at that time no more than twelve years and six months old, she seemed already to have sprung into womanhood. She was robed in white satin, waved with flowers of delicate tints, and wore a diadem of silver richly spangled with diamonds—the great golden crown having been placed on a table near the throne. Her train, which was of deep-green velvet, lined with ermine, was borne by an officer of the household, and Madame Mina, the royal *camarera* and *governante*, walked behind her majesty, dressed in the plain black costume of a Spanish lady."—"The queen walked with dignity to the throne; but the manner in which she acknowledged the salutations of the peers was neither graceful nor courteous; and, in general, the abruptness and impatience displayed in her movements contrast strongly with the natural grace of the young infanta. Scarcely had her majesty touched the throne when Espartero was likewise seated. The absence of dignity in his deportment immediately struck me—I mean of that dignity and portly bearing which might be expected in a military man accustomed to command—and, on the whole, I could see in his manner and countenance no indication of profound genius or nobleness of feeling. The speech having been handed to her majesty, and then by her, through one of the ministers, to Espartero, he proceeded to read it sitting, at first going over it glibly enough, with a voice neither sweet nor full, but employing some emphasis at the close, where allusion was made to the unfortunate affairs of Barcelona. The reading over, the speech was handed to the president, the Cortes were declared to be opened, and the assembly fast broke up, every one being anxious to get a sight of the procession to the palace. This was indeed most brilliant."

The next Sunday he sees the royal sisters at mass, and observes:—

"When the queen's name was mentioned in the prayers at mass, the train of priests turned round and bowed to her majesty, but she only returned the salutation with a rapid inclination of the head; and in this as well as in her other abrupt gestures, such as starting every moment from her seat, and tossing her head about violently, she displayed not only an extremely defective education, but it is to be feared a sullenness and violence of disposition also. In this respect it is apprehended that she will but too strongly resemble her royal father, as she decidedly does in a certain coarseness of expression about the mouth and chin, if not in the general outline of her features. On one occasion I saw her majesty lose temper so much, because her governess could not make her understand the parts of the office in her prayer-book, that she shut up the book in a pet, and refused to speak with her sister who was gently endeavouring to soothe her anger."

The biography of Madame Mina, with anecdotes of the queen mother and Minoz, of Don Francisco de Paula and his late princess, and a dissertation on Spanish character and politics, need not detain us; and therefore we pass to our last quotations, a few words (naturally adapted to our page) on the present literature of Spain, but reserved till next No.

Hood's Magazine came out a few days too late this month, but the following apology for it is so truly in the writer's best vein, that we cannot regret the accident, and only hope it

will cause no loss to him. Poor editors had little need to have bad health added to their other ills.—*Ed. L. G.*

"*The Echo*.—The writer of the following letter guesses so truly at the main cause of the delay in the publication of the present number, that our best explanation to our subscribers will be, to give the epistle entire, *verbatim et literatim*,—as addressed to the Editor:—

"Sir,—By your not cumming out on the Furst, I conclude you are lade up—being notorus for enjoyin bad helth. Pullmery, of course. Like my poor Robert—for I've had a littery branch in my own fammily—a periodical one like yourself, only every Sunday, insted of once a munth; and as such, well knew what it was to write long-winded articles with Weekly lungs. Poor fellow! As I often said, so much head work, and nothin but Head work, will make a Cherubim of you: and so it did.—Nothing but write—write—write, and read—read—read; and, as our Doctor says, it's as bad to studdy till all is brown, as to drink till all is blew. Mix your cullers. And wery good advice it is—when it can be follerd, witch is not always the case: for if necessity has no Law, it has a good deal of Litterature, and Authers must rite what they must. As poor Robert used to say about sedentary habits, it's verry well, says he, to tell me about—like Mr. Wordsworth's single man as grew dubble—sticking to my chair; but if there's no sitting, says he, ther'll be no hatchin; and if I do brood too much at my desk it's because there's a brood expected from me once a week. Oh, its verry well says he, to cry Up, up with you; and go and fetch a walk, and take a look at the daisies, when you've sold your mind to Miffy Stofilis; and there's a Divil waiting for your last proofs, as he did for Doctor Forster's. I know it's killin me, says he; but if I die of overwork it's in the way of my vacation. Poor boy! I did all I could to nurrige him: Mock Turkey soop and strong slops, and Wormy Jelly and Island Moss; but he couldn't eat. And no wonder; for mental labor, as the Docter said, wares out the stummack as well as the Branes, and so he'd been spinning out his inside like a spider. And a spider he did look at last, sure enuff—one of that sort with long spindle legs, and only a dot of a Boddy in the middle. Another bad thing is sittin up all nite as my Sun did, but it's all agin Natur. Not but what some must, and partikly the writers of Politicks for the Papers; but they ruin the Constistushun. And, besides, even Poetry is apt to get prosy after twelve or one; and some late authors read verry sleepy. But as poor Robert said, what is one to do when no day is long enuff for one's work, nor no munth, either. And to be sure, April, June, November, and September, are all short munths, but Febber-very! However one great thing is, relaxin—if you can. As the Doctor used to say, what made Jack a dull boy—why being always in the workhouse and never at the playhouse. So get out of your gownd and slippers, says he, and put on your Best Things and unbend yourself like a Beau. If you've been at your poetical flights, go and look at the Tems Tunnel; and if you're tired of being Witty, go and spend a hour with the Wax Work. The mind requires a Change as well as the merchants. So take my advice, Sir—a mother's advice—and relax a littel. I know what it is: You want brassing, a change of Hair, and more stummuck. And you ought to ware flannin, and take tonicks. Do you ever drink Basses Pain? It's as good as cammonile Tea. But above all, there's one thing I'd recommend to you: Steal Wine. It's been a

savin to sum invalids. Hoping you will excuse this liberty from a stranger, but a well-meaning one,—I am, Sir, A SUBSCRIBER."

SMALL BOOKS ON GREAT SUBJECTS.

An Introduction to Practical Organic Chemistry. Pp. 90. London, Pickering.

A FEW *Gazettes* back (No. 1400) we welcomed the first three treatises under the above title. The fourth is now before us, and departs not in the slightest degree in tone and spirit from the intent and purpose of the "few well-wishers to knowledge" who edit them. Their object is, we may repeat, to "furnish the large class of busy men with the essence of useful information, compressed into the shortest and pleasantest form, and made intelligible by a clear explanation of the few great principles which form the basis of all science." This has been attempted in the present No.,—Liebig's *Agricultural and Animal Chemistry* being the chief sources whence the matter has been derived,—but we think not with complete success. The extent and intricacy of the subject preclude condensation, however ably done, unaccompanied here and there with obscurity and abruptness. Such is the case, to a slight degree, in this "small book;" but we say it in excuse, and not as finding fault; for, notwithstanding, we approve its execution, and highly recommend its perusal and study. Much interesting and useful information for the farmer, gardener, and valetudinarian, is to be derived from it, and profit to every reader from the thoughts and conclusions which pervade it. The spirit of the series may be known from the following brief quotation:—"What more satisfactory answer can be given to the materialist, who would find the whole of man in organised matter, than the proved existence of intellectual force in the human animal alone; a force by whose influence the phenomena of animal and vegetative life are frequently so palpably altered as to compel the acknowledgment that it is perfectly distinct from the vital force which manifests itself in those phenomena. The chemist has traced this latter to its elements; he has accounted for the processes of life, and the causes of death; but he has seen in the course of his investigations that another agency exists, and confesses that its nature is inscrutable to him. The vital force has its limits; to the intellectual we have not yet been able to set any. It overcomes the vital force and produces death; we can trace its action no further; but as the agent and the patient must be different, it is at least a rational inference that the agent does not itself share the fate of the machine, which it has worn out by too much use, or broken in a fit of ill-humour."

The Hand-Book of Hydropathy, for professional and domestic use; with an Appendix on the best Mode of forming Hydropathic Establishments, being the result of twelve years' experience at Grafenberg and Freywaldau. By Dr. J. Weiss, formerly Director of the Establishment at Freywaldau; latterly of Stanstead Bury House, Hertfordshire. 8vo, pp. 438. London, Madden and Co.

THIS is a work, considering the popularity of the subject, which will, no doubt, have an extensive circulation. Dr. Weiss is generally admitted to be the most scientific and able practitioner of hydropathy in this country; and his manual will evidently be the book of reference and the authority for guidance. For our own parts, we have so often given our opinion of the merits and demerits of the sys-

tem,—that it contains much that is extremely valuable, and at the same time pretends to much as new which is not so; and that, while an important adjuvant to medical and surgical science, it is by no means calculated to supersede such science, as its most sanguine practitioners pretend,—that we shall on the present occasion omit the subject merely to notice the work, as the most complete and extended treatise upon it that we as yet possess.

Hints on the Health and Disease of the Skin. By Walter Cooper Denby, Surgeon, &c. 12mo, pp. 47. London, H. Renshaw.

THIS is a popularised fragment of the author's able and elaborate work on the diseases of the skin, and which is, we think, the best existing manual upon the subject. We cannot see the precise use of making such subjects popular; but if there exist those who are in want of such information, the present work is concise, clear, and abounds in sound advice.

The Phreno-Magnet, and Mirror of Nature, &c. Edited by Spencer T. Hall. Nos. 10 and 11. London, Tyas.

THIS periodical is in future to be published as an annual volume. It is truly well that it is so; for the phreno-magnetists were going on at such a rate that it was impossible almost to follow them in their discoveries. Every month brought a dozen newly discovered faculties of the mind; and only No. 10 announces that in mesmerism it is now ascertained that no specific manipulations are requisite,—it suffices that two minds are made up upon the subject. Then we have the removal of a wen by mesmerism; and another person reads verbatim two letters coming by post! It is obvious that a longer interval in the dates of publication will give time to sift statements, and more particularly to distinguish the true from the untrue, and to mature deductions before they are given to the public.

Metrical Collects for Sundays and Holydays throughout the Year. By R. D. Harris. Pp. 49. London, Houlston and Stoneman.

NOTHING remains so indelibly imprinted on the memory of mature age as the poetical compilations, whether sacred or profane, which they have committed to it in youth. From its impressive nature it is also a wise dispensation, that the sacred abides more forcibly and permanently than the profane. Knowing this, we most cordially recommend these metrical versions of the most beautiful portions of the liturgy. They possess much variety of versification, are close and correct, and we have not for a long while met with so small a book which is calculated to produce so large a crop of beneficial results as Mr. Harris's well-conceived and well-executed publication. Though excellent for the young, it cannot fail to be acceptable to the old.

The Life and Times of the Prophet Samuel. By a Grandfather. Longman and Co.

A PRETTY scriptural story for young people.

Woman's Worth, or Hints to raise the Female Character. Pp. 226. London, H. G. Clarke and Co.

IN this small volume is a great deal of just and sensible remark, which no woman (and few men) can read without benefit; but the subject has been so much treated within the last forty years, that we despair of finding any novelty to quote. We must, therefore, be content with general recommendation, as a publication tending to work much good, and add greatly to the improvement of social life.

Can Woman regenerate Society? J. W. Parker. IN sound this is rather a strange title, but in substance the author insists on the solidifying of female education as a means of improving society. The heads of one sex, she holds, have been educated, or filled, at least, at the expense of their hearts; whilst with the other the feelings have been forced, as in a hothouse, at the expense of the understanding. This she would have much qualified, if not reversed.

The Fortunes of the Falconers. By Mrs. Gordon, authoress of "Three Nights in a Lifetime," &c. 3 vols. Saunders and Otley.

A STORY of the present day, and told with a degree of circumstantiality and *verisemblance* which impress on the reader the idea of perfect truth. The characters, especially the two Scottish aunts, are drawn in the most natural manner; and without any thing to puzzle, startle, or surprise, the *Fortunes of the Falconers* is a very agreeable and interesting novel. In the beginning the young folks make love, as young people will do; then intervene a haughty mother, a death or two, some difficulties and afflictions; and in the end poetical justice is administered to the satisfaction of all, including those who have gone pleasantly through the preceding narration.

The Old Dower-House: a Tale of Bygone Days. By the Author of the "Young Prima Donna," &c. &c. London, T. C. Newby.

THE tale is an unbroken record of the sufferings brought on a large family by the indomitable pride of the mother. Love and woe, and love and love, tread on each others' heels from chapter to chapter. The characters are artificial, and the whole narrative highly romantic. The latter, however, runs smoothly on; and no one can complain of a paucity of events, or of heaviness in the relation of them. In fine, *The Old Dower-House* is a genuine novel, and will, to the lovers of such productions, afford a pleasant evening's amusement.

The Child's Picture and Verse-Book, commonly called Otto Speckter's Fable-Book. With the original German and with French. Translated into English, by Mary Howitt. Pp. 201. Longman and Co.

A RATHER curious collection, and with a good deal of straining here and there to make the fables as natural as *Æsop's*. The moral of the Ham and the Sausage, for example, is not very easily found out. The German is, however, well translated; and what with pictures and three languages, the volume is a very proper one for the exercise of youth.

The Gleaner. By Mrs. C. J. Parkinson. 2 vols. Saunders and Otley.

A JUDICIOUSLY chosen collection of prose and verse from some of our best writers of former and later times.

The Hand-book of India: a Guide to the Stranger and the Traveller, &c. By J. H. Stocqueler. Pp. 600. London, W. H. Allen and Co.

THIS, for what it professes to do, is truly an excellent book. As is stated in the preface, it contains at one view a very complete outline of every thing relating to India which may be sought to be known; and such pains have been taken to give the information in a form as clear as it is ample, that we might say it was altogether a history as well as a hand-book.

Murray's Colonial and Home Library. No. VI. Concludes Bp. Heber's Indian Journal.

Bentley's Standard Novels.

THE present No. contains the 3d edition of G. P. R. James's *Man-at-Arms*, with a good likeness of the author.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

THE DUTIES OF EDITORS.

WE do not know that we can do better, in regard to a matter of so much literary and public interest as is implicated in the above heading, than insert the following correspondence entire. We leave every reader to form his own opinion, and have only to state that the discussion arose out of the *Literary Gazette* Review of *Chatsworth*, in No. 1414, and the subjoined notice to correspondents, consequent upon a letter we received from Mr. Ward (for whom the expression of our respect and esteem, as an author and a gentleman, need not be reiterated), which appeared in our last week's publication.

Chatsworth.—Mr. Ward, the editor of *Chatsworth*, informs us that 'he did not write a single line or word (not even by way of correction) of *Chatsworth*, which, to gratify a friend he much valued, he consented to edit.' This shows our critical acumen to have been at fault; for we certainly fancied the introductory portion to be from his pen. But, after all, does not this statement confirm the force of our objection to publishing books under the names of authors of high reputation, who have, in fact, nothing to do with them? It is a practice much to be condemned, and we must regret that Mr. Ward has sanctioned it.

The first is a formal note, from Mr. Colburn, the publisher, to us:

13, Great Marlborough Street, March 7, 1844.

Sir,—In consequence of the remarks which have appeared in your paper relative to the editorship of *Chatsworth*, I have thought it necessary to address a letter to Mr. Plumer Ward for some explanation, and request you will do me the favour to insert a copy of his answer, which I enclose herewith, and have his permission to publish.—I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY COLBURN.

The next is from the same:

To the Author of "*Chatsworth*."

Sir,—Observing in the *Literary Gazette* of Saturday 2d inst. a statement that "Mr. Ward had not written a single line or word (not even by way of correction) of *Chatsworth*," I feel it necessary to request you will afford me an explanation of this statement; having been induced to give a considerable sum of money for the work on the understanding that it had received the advantage of Mr. Ward's acknowledged taste, judgment, and experience in its preparation for the press.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. COLBURN.

A similar reclamation appears to have been addressed to the editor, Mr. Ward; and as there is somewhat of confusion in the explanations, we judge it most convenient to place the latter first, in order that the understanding of the contents of both answers may be as clear as possible.

Upper Brook St., March 6, 1844.

Dear sir,—I answer your letter in the moment I receive it; for it has given me great concern, to think that mine to the *Literary Gazette* may admit of the very unjust misrepresentation you seem to fear. I believe it is no more than correct to say, that in that letter I disavowed having written a line of *Chatsworth*, even by way of correction; but if this is construed to mean that I had not been consulted on the composition of every page of the work, which was regularly submitted to me—that I did not approve its structure and form, or give advice on many parts, particularly as to omissions, and which advice the author did me the honour always to follow—in short, that I did not perform all the usual duties of an editor, which I undertook when I recommended the work to you,—nothing can be more mistaken or farther from the fact. Perhaps the words "not even in the way of correction," though

strictly true (for the author was, in point of ability, far beyond any assistance from me), were inadvisedly used, because I could not be aware that such a misconstruction, as that I was not in every respect the editor, would be put upon them.

In truth, they were used solely from my desire not to rob the author of anything so entirely his own as the composition of *Chatsworth*; and the positiveness with which the whole of the introduction was attributed to me by the *Literary Gazette*, made me more eager than perhaps was necessary to disclaim what did not belong to me, and therefore made me so minute. But if I could have foreseen that this could have admitted the construction you think may be put upon it, and that in denying (as was true) that I wrote any part of the work, I disclaimed any part of the duty or responsibility of editor, I should certainly never have used words which could by possibility be made to convey what is so opposite to the fact. I have every wish that can belong to the most active and interested editor, that the work should produce to the author the credit which I anticipated from his talents, and which so entirely belongs to him and not to, dear sir, yours,

R. PLUMER WARD.

March 6, 1844.

Sir,—I have to state, in reply to your note respecting Mr. Plumer Ward's editorship of *Chatsworth*, that the whole of the MS. of that work was submitted to Mr. Plumer Ward's examination and approval before it was put to press, and that he made many valuable and important suggestions, both in regard to the introductory portion and the tales; the whole of which suggestions I gladly adopted, with the exception of one or two, which, though I entirely approved of them, demanded, in order to carry them into effect, an amount of re-construction and re-writing which time and circumstances did not allow me to bestow. I have further to add that every printed sheet of the work was submitted to Mr. Plumer Ward, as it passed through the press, and that large and important further alterations and omissions were made at his suggestion (alterations which involved the cancelling of between thirty and forty printed pages of the work). I am, sir, your obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR OF "*CHATSORTH*."

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

March 1.—Mr. Fownes "On the chemical history of sugar." Under the general term "sugars" a number of sweet vegetable principles are included, more or less definite in their nature, and easily distinguished by their physical and chemical characters. The chief of these are the following: cane-sugar, the ordinary sugar of commerce; grape-sugar, the sweet principle of fruits; crystallisable sugar, from ergot of rye; mannite, or manna sugar; glycerhizin, the sweet principle of liquorice-root, &c. The chemical composition of mannite differs from that of the sugars proper, inasmuch as it does not contain oxygen and hydrogen in the proportions to form water. It is generally supposed that the sugar-cane was originally an inhabitant of the tropical East: it was cultivated in Sicily before the time of the crusades. About 1420 it was carried by the Portuguese to Madeira. Its introduction to the West Indies and the Brazils took place subsequently; and its cultivation has spread over nearly the whole of the region of the tropics where the soil and climate are at all

suitable. In the islands of the British West Indies the ripe canes are crushed by powerful machinery, consisting of a set of three rollers connected by cog-wheels; the juice is received into a large pan, mixed with a little "temper," usually hydrate of lime, and rapidly heated to near the boiling point. The liquor is thus clarified, and the albumen always present separated in an insoluble form. It is then rapidly boiled down to the crystallising consistence in a series of open pans, heated by naked fires, and afterwards transferred to coolers to solidify. It is lastly drained from the uncrystallisable portion, or molasses, and exported.

In this process a very serious evil exists in the destruction of a large quantity of crystallisable sugar by the high temperature of the open pan (230°-250° F.). The whole product is much darkened in colour, and grape-sugar is generated at the expense of the cane-sugar. In the East Indies the process is even much more defective; it is stated that much of the sugar here produced is made from palm-juice. In sugar refining the raw or Muscovado sugar is dissolved in water, filtered or clarified by heating with animal albumen, whitened by percolation through a bed of powdered animal charcoal, and then, after proper concentration, put into conical iron moulds to produce the loaves, in which a confused crystallisation exists. After complete solidification, the mass is washed with pure syrup, which displaces the dark-coloured fluid portion; nothing then remains but to wrap the loaves in paper, and dry them by gentle heat. The concentration of the syrup is now conducted in a vacuum pan or boiler, connected with a close condensing arrangement, from which the air is exhausted,—a method introduced by the Hon. Charles Edward Howard in 1813, and which has become almost general,—the temperature of the boiling syrup is thus reduced to about 150°, and all injury by heat prevented. The pans are heated by an external steam-jacket. Much stress was laid by Mr. Fownes on the necessity of introducing this method of evaporation *in vacuo* into the West Indies, and of employing it in the concentration of the cane-juice itself. The latter has been shewn by M. Péligot to contain nothing but crystallisable sugar, a little albumen, and salts; so that all the treacle which appears is really produced at the expense of the available sugar.

Prof. Mitscherlich communicated to the Berlin Academy of Sciences in 1841 a beautiful experiment of Trommer for the purpose of distinguishing between the two chief varieties of sugar, and other bodies of the same class. It reposes on the fact, that grape-sugar completely reduces the hydrated oxide of copper to suboxide when heated with that substance in contact with excess of alkali, which is not the case with cane-sugar. It is proposed to assay different samples of raw sugar in this manner—by dissolving a given weight in water, mixing it with solution of sulphate of copper and excess of caustic potash, and heating the deep-blue solution to the boiling point. The quantity of red suboxide produced might possibly then indicate the proportion of grape-sugar present. A series of specimens of sugars of different qualities thus treated were upon the table, and the increasing proportion of red oxide with the coarseness of the article was very evident. The wilful adulteration of raw sugar by pale-coloured, but comparatively worthless, grape-sugar, made for the purpose on a large scale from potato-starch, was lastly mentioned, and condemned as a cruel fraud, pressing heavily upon the poor. The lecture

was illustrated by excellent drawings of machinery and apparatus, and a working model of a vacuum pan, lent for the occasion by the Pharmaceutical Society.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, March 2, 1844.

Academy of Sciences: sitting of February 19.—M. Dumas read the report of a commission on M. Jacquelin's memoir relating to the products of the reciprocal action of anhydrous sulphuric acid and ammonia, to be inserted in the *Recueil des Savants Etrangers*. The products are a highly crystallised body and a barytic compound which results from it. According to the analyses of M. Jacquelin, the formula of the former is $4\text{S O}_3 + 3\text{A}_2\text{H}^6$; and of the latter $3\text{S O}_3 + \text{Ba O} + \text{A}_2\text{H}^6$. These formulæ M. Dumas says are very novel, and require close study to be understood.

Read also a report on M. Cahour's memoir on the volatile oil of *Gualtheria procumbens*, also to be inserted as above. This oil is identical with a compound ether artificially produced from salicylic and pyrologeneous acids. And both it and the artificial salicylate of methylene should be neutral bodies, but they unite with one equivalent of potash, and thus constitute salts of two bases, the one formed by the methylic ether, the other by the potash itself. Salicylic acid is then analogous to phosphoric acid, and like it capable of forming salts with one or two equivalents of base. This property is also found by M. Cahours in salicylic ether. The bibasic character of the acid, even when chlorine or bromine replace one or more of its equivalents of hydrogen, has been established by numerous experiments. M. Cahours thinks that other organic acids which, like the salicylic, contain five equivalents of oxygen, possess like properties. This he proposes to shew in a future memoir. M. Dumas directed attention to this new field of chemical research.

M. Coulvier Gravier read a supplement to his numerous communications, since 1839, which tend to establish, from observation, a certain relation between the direction of the wind and the direction of shooting stars, and, consequently, the possibility of prognosticating atmospheric changes from the simple observance of those meteors.

Sitting of Feb. 26.—This was the annual meeting of the Academy, at which the prizes were awarded.

The grand mathematical prize was decreed to M. Sanus, of Strasbourg.

Four memoirs had been submitted, two of which were particularly distinguished by the examiners, MM. Liouville, Sturm, Poinso, Duhamel, and Cauchy. The first, the successful one as above; the second by M. Delaunay, a private teacher of l'Ecole Polytechnique.

The Lalande astronomical prize has been confirmed, by the Academy, to M. Laugier, although an academican, the discoverer of a comet and the calculator of its orbit.

For the Montyon prize—mechanics, no work of sufficient merit had been received.

The complete set of the works of Laplace to be given annually to the first scholar of l'Ecole Polytechnique, a prize founded by Madame la Marquise de Laplace, was assigned to M. L. E. Rivot.

Six memoirs had been sent in for the Montyon prize for experimental physiology, three of which were highly approved, and will be duly published. The recipient of the prize, however, will be Dr. Laurent, who has heretofore presented to the academy several memoirs on anatomy, physiology, and zoology. The

award was for his "Recherches expérimentales, anatomiques, et physiologiques sur l'Hydre commune et sur l'Eponge fluviatile, recherches comprenant les modes de reproduction et l'histoire du développement de ces animaux à toutes les époques de la vie." And as the pecuniary value of this prize (895 francs) is far from sufficient to indemnify Dr. Laurent for the numerous expenses to which he has been put in collecting, maintaining, and holding at the disposal of the examiner, these animals for more than three years, the commission has proposed to the Academy to add to the prize a sum of 2000 francs, in the hope that Dr. Laurent may extend his researches, and clear up a few doubtful points which still exist.

There were eighteen competitors for the prize relating to amelioration of insalubrious arts.

Four votes of respectively 2000, 4000, 3000, and 2000 francs, were passed: to M. Chuard, for his persevering and ingenious efforts to perfect an apparatus to predict the formation of detonating mixtures, either in mines or in habitations where gas is burned; to M. Martin, for his process of extracting starch from farina, without alteration of the gluten, and without putrid fermentation; to le sieur Lamy, for improvements ensuring safety in the purification of sulphur; and to MM. Iawin and Longcoté, for the ready conversion of organic and infectious matter of drains, &c., into pulverulent manure.

The works on medicine and surgery sent in were twenty-six. A prize of 6000 francs was awarded for division between MM. Stromeyer and Dieffenbach, to the former for having been first to design and execute on dead bodies the operation of strabismus, and to the latter for having first practised it with success on the living subject. 5000 francs were voted to MM. Bourguier and Jacob, for their work entitled "Iconographie d'anatomie chirurgicale et de Médecine opératoire." The fidelity and beautiful execution of the representations will greatly facilitate the study of operations and guide to practice. A sum of 4000 francs, for a somewhat similar benefit to the study and progress of medicine, was given to Dr. Thibert, as a reward for his successful efforts in modelling with extreme accuracy all the possible changes of pathologic anatomy—for instance, the affections of the skin, of the mucous membranes, of the brain, liver, &c., in the minutest details. Two other rewards of 3000 and 2000 francs were judged to Dr. Longet and Dr. Valéix, for works on the nervous system, and on neuralgic affections respectively.

The subjects of the prizes proposed for future competition are briefly and generally as follow:—For the grand prize (mathematical science) to be awarded in 1847, "to establish equations for the general motions of the terrestrial atmosphere, having regard to the rotation of the earth, the calorific action of the sun, and the attractions of the sun and moon." For the grand prize (physical science) for 1845, "to demonstrate by new and more profound views, and by description, accompanied by figures of the organs of reproduction in both sexes of five classes of vertebrates, the analogy of the parts which constitute these organs, the progressive change to the lower class, and the fundamental types to establish a general classification of these species." Another grand prize for physics, for 1845, "to determine, by precise experiments, the quantity of heat disengaged in chemical combinations." Prize founded by M. Manni, for 1846: this was proposed in 1837 for 1839, and again for 1842; seven memoirs each period having been submitted, but not

one was considered worthy the prize;—the questions to be solved and determined are—"What are the distinctive characteristics of apparent death? and what are the means to prevent premature interments?" There are several other prizes, and not confined to particular amounts, it being in the power of the Academy to award considerable sums, proportional to the expense incurred and the value of the services rendered by the results. The annual prizes—one of Lalande's, and four Montyon—need not description.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, Feb. 29.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—Rev. W. Hall, St. Edmund Hall; Rev. M. C. Morton, Exeter College; Rev. J. Morton, Worcester College.

Bachelors of Arts.—E. H. McLachlan, Pembroke College; A. P. Forbes, Brasenose College.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

March 2. The Earl of Auckland in the chair. A paper was read "On the results of experiments recently made in India for the improvement of the breed of sheep." From this paper it appeared that, about eight years ago, Major Jervis, of the Bombay Engineers, suggested to the Bombay government some considerations on the state of the immense flocks of sheep in the Deccan, whose wool, though very short and ill shorn, yet forms a considerable article of export to England. He was of opinion that by importing some rams of superior breeds from England or Spain, the country breed might be greatly improved, and a much more valuable article of investment furnished. The suggestion was favourably received; and early in 1837 some Merino rams and ewes, some of the best south-downs from Lord Western's flocks, and some Saxon rams from the Cape of Good Hope, were received in Bombay. Several of these were placed on sheep farms established by the government at Ahmednugger, and in the Poonah Collectorate; and others were delivered to private individuals, both European and native, who kept sheep farms.

In 1838 the report states that the experiment appeared to be a failure; although it was at the same time somewhat inconsistently admitted that the produce of the imported sheep were in as good a condition, and required as little care, as the coarse, black country sheep, while they were in every respect stronger, and less liable to sickness.

From this time we have no accounts until towards the end of 1842, when a minute on the farm at Ahmednugger was made by Sir G. Arthur, who brought to the subject much information, which he had gained in his government at Van Dieman's Land. It appears from this that in July 1842, the government sheep amounted to about 6000 of all sorts; and that it was then determined to sell all those whose wool was coarse, black, or particoloured. These amounted to about one half of the number, and those which remained were stated to be of the best quality, and all white fleeced. It was proposed to place flocks of these improved races under the superintendence of native shepherds, who were to receive a certain proportion of the profits of the flocks—themselves contributing attendance and pasturage. They had made some demur to the terms offered; but Sir George states that many were anxious to take the flocks; and he was of opinion that the measure was well calculated to spread the improved breeds throughout India. The conclusion on our mind is, that it is likely to be

highly beneficial both to this country and to the natives under our government.

On the table were some beautiful models of Aden, the Cape, and St. Helena, by Mr. Wilde, topographic modeller.

DISCOVERIES IN EGYPT.

WE mentioned last week that a circumstantial account of the discovery of the Philæ Stone had reached us; and that Dr. Lepsius's letter to Von Humboldt had been published in the Prussian and other German periodicals. From these sources we now add a brief outline of the tour of the expedition to the latest date, Nov. 20, 1843:—

"Our journey from Fayoum through Egypt was necessarily accelerated on account of the advanced season; we were therefore unable to make a long stay at any one place, and for the last three months we have been chiefly employed in accurately arranging what we have already got, and adding to our important collection of impressions on paper of the most interesting description.

On the 21st of August I set out with the whole expedition from Fayoum, and on the 23d from Beni-Suef in a handsome spacious bark. I gave up the plan of travelling by land as too troublesome, and offering in proportion but little advantage. On the first day, however, of our voyage down the Nile, I discovered a small temple of the 9th dynasty on the right bank at Suranic, which was not seen by Champollion or Wilkinson. It is the most northern temple of the ancient Pharaohs which is to be found in Egypt. It is surprising that Champollion seems not to have recognised the monuments of the ancient kingdom. On his whole tour through Central Egypt to Dendera he found only the catacombs of Beni-Hassan, which he confounds with Speos Artemidos, worthy of notice, and even these he takes for works of the 16th and 17th dynasty, that is of the modern kingdom. He mentions Samit-el-Meiten and Siut, but makes no remark upon them. Other travellers too have said either nothing, or only what is erroneous, respecting most of the monuments of Central Egypt; so that almost every thing that we met with here was new to me. I was, therefore, not a little astonished to find in Samit a series of nineteen catacombs, all containing inscriptions, with the names of the inmates, and belonging to the remote period of the 6th dynasty, i. e. almost as far back as the time of the great pyramids.

At Beni-Hassan I had complete drawings made of an entire catacomb, as a specimen of the grand style of architecture and the skill of the flourishing time of the ancient kingdom under the powerful 12th dynasty. These magnificent sepulchres alone prove that this was a splendid period in the history of Egypt. At the same time it is interesting in the gorgeous representations on the walls, which display the high perfection of the arts of peace, and the refined luxury of the great men of those times, to recognise the presages of its misfortunes, beginning with the sudden fall of the last dynasty of the ancient kingdom, which placed it for many centuries in the power of its northern enemies. In the combats of gladiators—which there are frequent representations, and which in several catacombs cover whole walls, from which we may infer an extensive occurrence of them at that time, which afterwards almost disappeared—we often find, among the red or dark-brown men of the Egyptian and more southern races, people with quite fair complexions, who generally have a rather different costume, and almost invariably

red hair and beards, and blue eyes; sometimes singly, sometimes in small groups; occasionally they are seen among a train of servants, and are evidently of a northern, probably Semitic race. We find in the monuments of that time victories of the kings over the Ethiopians and Negroes; and therefore black slaves and servants cannot surprise us. Nothing appears, however, of wars with their northern neighbours; but it seems that the emigration of nations from the north-east had already begun at that time, and that many came to seek subsistence in Egypt either as servants or by following other useful occupations. I here particularly notice the highly remarkable scene in the tomb of the royal relative Nehera-se-Numhetep, the second from the north, which depicts very strikingly the arrival of Jacob with his family; and might tempt us really to identify the two things, if the time agreed (Jacob arrived under the Hyksos), and if we were not obliged to own that such immigrations of single families could not be uncommon at that time. But these were the precursors of the Hyksos, and doubtless, in very many respects, prepared the way for them.

Beni-Hassan is not, however, the only place where we became acquainted with the works of the twelfth dynasty. A little to the south of the great plain in which the Emperor Adrian erected, in honour of his favourite who was drowned here, the city of Antinoë, with its fine streets, some of which are still practicable and bordered by hundreds of columns, there is on the east a narrow valley, where we found again an entire series of splendid catacombs of the twelfth dynasty; most of which, however, have been defaced by subsequent excavations. In the same valley, and on the southern rocky wall, is a series of still more ancient tombs, with few inscriptions, which, to judge by the style of the hieroglyphics and the titles of the deceased, are of the sixth dynasty. Some leagues farther to the south of this spot, is another group of catacombs belonging to the sixth, and some of them to the fifth dynasty. At Siut we again recognised, at a distance, the grand style of the catacombs of the twelfth dynasty.

At Abydos we came to the first large temple, the last interesting tombs of the ancient kingdom, at Kasr-e-Saiat: they are likewise of the sixth dynasty. At Dendera we visited the grand temple of Hathor—perhaps the best preserved in all Egypt.

At Thebes we stopped twelve days—days abounding in wonders!—which scarcely sufficed to find our way among the palaces, temples, and tombs, which filled this extensive plain with their gigantic splendour. We have reserved all more extensive operations till our return, but it will be very difficult to make a choice among the inexhaustible materials suitable to our purpose, and with regard to what has already been published.

We left Thebes on the 18th October. Hermonthis we saw only *en passant*. The great hall of Esne had been entirely cleared from the rubbish, by order of the Pasha, and has a very grand appearance. We stopped three days at El Kab, the ancient Hithya. The several temples of this once powerful place are not so interesting as its catacombs, most of which belong to the period of the commencement of the war for the delivery of Egypt, against the Hyksos, and throw much light on the dynasties of that age. The temple of Edfu is one of the best preserved; it was dedicated to Horus and to Hathor, the Egyptian Venus, who is here once called the queen of men and women.

Horus, as a child, is represented, like all the Egyptian children, at least the infants, naked, and placing his finger on his lip. I had on a former occasion explained from this circumstance the name of Harpocrates, which I have here found represented, and written *en toutes lettres*, as Har-pe-chreti, i. e., Horus the child. The Romans misunderstood the Egyptian position of the finger, and changed the child, who cannot speak, into the god of silence, who will not speak.

The most interesting inscription, which has hitherto been neither mentioned nor observed by any body, is on the eastern exterior wall of the temple built by Ptolemy Alexander I., in which a great historical inscription mentions several dates of the reigns of Darius, Amyrtæus, and Nectanabus, appearing to refer to the building of the city and of the temple.

At Assuan we were obliged to exchange our bark for another, on account of the cataracts; and, for the first time for six months or more, had the enjoyment of an ample shower of rain, and a violent thunder storm, which collected beyond the cataracts, passed the chain of granite rocks, and then descended into the valley with the most fearful explosions, and, as we have since heard, rolled onwards as far as Cairo, which it deluged with such torrents of rain as are almost unparalleled in that country. Thus we too can say, with Strabo and Champollion, 'in our times there was rain in Upper Egypt.' In fact, rain is here so rare that our guides did not remember having ever witnessed such a scene.

Philæ is as beautifully situated as it is interesting on account of its monuments. Our week's residence in this holy island is one of the most pleasing reminiscences of our journey. We made a most valuable discovery [this, we need scarcely repeat, is the great discovery of the expedition, announced exclusively, and put forth prominently by us three weeks ago—*Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1412, *Ed. L. G.*] in the court of the great temple of Isis, viz., two rather long bilingual inscriptions, that is to say, decrees of the Egyptian priests in hieroglyphics and demotic characters; one of which contains the same text as the decree of the celebrated Rosetta Stone.

The hieroglyphical name of Philæ has been hitherto wrongly read Manlak. I have found the word written Ilak.

Konosso, a small island known in hieroglyphics as Kenes, contains several old inscriptions, from which I have made out a hitherto unknown monarch of the age of the Hyksos. This island is not the Abaton of Letronne.

On the 6th of November we left this lonely island (Philæ), and commenced our Ethiopian journey. Champollion has justly observed, that all the temples of the Ptolemies and the Roman emperors in Nubia were probably only restorations of ancient temples built by the Pharaohs of the 18th and 19th dynasties, which were destroyed by the Persians. We collected our last Greek inscriptions at Hierasykaminos. The Greek and Roman travellers were secure as far as this spot, by the garrison of Pselkis, and by another fortified camp, Mehendi, some leagues to the south of Hierasykaminos, which is not laid down in the maps. Psemnis seems to have had a garrison only for a short time, after the campaign of Petronius. Mehendi, which name, perhaps, signifies in Arabic merely the building of the fortress, is the best preserved Roman camp with which I am acquainted.

The last monument that we visited before our arrival at Korusko was the temple of Ammon

at E' Sebáa, so called from the rows of sphinxes ranged at the entrance, which are now scarcely visible above the ocean of sand, which has buried almost the entire temple. Korusko is an Arabian place, in the midst of the country of the Barabra (the plural of Berberi), who occupy the valley of the Nile of Assouan to Dongola. The occupation of Korusko by the Arabs of the tribe Ababde, who inhabit the whole eastern desert from Assuan to Abu Hammed, is accounted for by the important position of this place as the termination of the great caravan road to Berber. This is the name of the tract of country where the junction of the Athara with the Nile forms the northern point of the extensive island of Meroe, and seems to have given the name to the Nubian tribe, though in Berber itself only an Arabic dialect is spoken—not the language of this place, which indeed is called, by the Barabra themselves, not the Berber but the Rotana language; a name which I have not found mentioned by preceding travellers. The Rotana language, as far as I have yet been able to learn, is divided into a northern and a southern dialect, which meet at Korusko.

We are now only waiting for the arrival of the camels to set out on our journey through the Desert. In seven days, from this to Abu Hammed, we shall only once meet with water fit for drinking, and then we shall have four days' riding on camels to Berber, at which place barks are to be ready for us, by order of Achmed Pascha. We must proceed to Kartoum, in order to obtain a fresh supply of provisions; but if we may believe Linant, it is not worth while to go higher up, as far as Abu Haras, for instance, and thence to Mandera in the eastern Desert. Achmed Pascha has, however, promised to send an officer to Mandera, to examine once more the accounts of the natives. We hope to complete in four months the second main object of our journey, namely, to explore the Ethiopic monuments, and to return, at least, as far as Wadi Halsá."

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Geographical, 8½ P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 8½ P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Graphic, 8 P.M.; Pharmaceutical, 9 P.M.; Ethnological, 8 P.M.
Thursday.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; R. S. of Literature, 4 P.M.; Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.; Statistical (anniversary meeting), 3 P.M.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 3 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

The Royal Society: the President's Conversation.—The second of these agreeable evenings took place on Saturday; and the only subject of continued regret was, that the health of the noble president, though much improved, did not prudently admit of his coming to town to receive the numerous attendance of those who crowded to pay their respects to him. Lord Alford and Mr. C. S. Dickens, as before, welcomed the company. Among the curiosities on the tables, &c., were the model of a new atmospheric air-engine exhibited by Mr. R. R. Reinagle, several examples of Mr. Dent's admirable (we might almost say, had we not been observant of what he has done within the last few years, his unimprovable) chronometers; and a remarkable specimen of the growth of a grain of wheat dibbled into the ground to the depth of several inches, by Mr. Dickens, on his estate near Horsham. The produce was prodigious, averaging from 20 to 40 ears (17 sacks to the acre, the seeds being six inches

apart), and the straw of a very superior description. Among the party we see enumerated, the ambassadors the Chevalier Bunsen, M. Van de Weyer, and Mr. Everett; the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Auckland, the Earl of Rosebery, Viscount Mahon, Viscount Ebrington, Lord Glenelg, Lord R. Grosvenor, Mr. Murchison, Right Hon. F. Lewis, Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Hon. H. Pierrepont, Hon. Mr. Carleton, Hon. C. Cust, the Common Sergeant, Sir T. Fremantle, Sir G. Clerk, Sir R. H. Inglis, Sir S. Glynne, Sir J. Clark, Sir B. Brodie, Dr. Lockock, Dr. Chambers, Dr. Holland, Dr. Elliotson, Sir H. Lushington, Sir J. Lubbock, Sir C. Scudamore, Sir W. Symonds, Sir H. Dukinfield, Sir R. Westmacott, Sir H. Nicholls, Sir C. Young, Sir T. Troubridge, Sir C. Lemon, Sir G. Wilson, Sir I. B. Brunell, Sir J. Hansler, Colonel Rushbrooke, Colonel Sabine, Colonel Stanhope, Captain Brandreth, Captain Beechey, Dr. Southey, Mr. Pringle, M.P., Mr. Mackinnon, M.P., Mr. O. Morgan, M.P., Mr. B. Wall, M.P., Mr. S. O'Brien, M.P., Mr. Colquhoun, M.P., Mr. Hawes, M.P., Mr. Pemberton, M.P., Mr. Estcourt, M.P., Mr. Bramston, M.P., Mr. S. Rogers, Mr. F. Tytler, Mr. Warburton, Mr. Wyatt, Mr. Rennie, Mr. Barry, Mr. Babbage, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Baily, Mr. Francis, Mr. W. Tooke, Mr. C. Dickens, Mr. Thos. Wright, Mr. J. Auldjo, Mr. Wyon, Mr. Gray, Mr. Parris, Mr. Pickersgill, Mr. Tupper, Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Mr. Grennough, Mr. Mulready, Mr. Beverley, Mr. Merivale, Mr. M. Milnes, Mr. Stanley, and many other eminent, scientific, and literary persons.

President of the Geographical Society.—Accidentally prevented from attending the first two evening meetings at the mansion of Mr. Murchison, in Belgrave Square (Feb. 14 and 28), we can only report that almost every leading person about London who is engaged or takes interest in scientific and literary pursuits paid their compliments to the much-esteemed president, whose handsome suite of rooms was crowded for several hours. As usual, there were curious and remarkable objects on the tables of the upper apartments, and abundant refreshments on those below. The third meeting is on Wednesday next, and the last on that day fortnight.

Covent Garden.—On Saturday M. Jullien's concerts, with the spirit and entertainment of which we have frequently expressed our "great content," concluded; and on Monday a much pre-puffed "bal masque" was given at this theatre. To say that it meets with our disapprobation is to write with milk and water on the subject; for we consider it, nearly throughout, to have been rapacious, discreditable, immoral, and disgusting. The preliminary advertisements and notices had the effect of stimulating curiosity to such an extent that the dress-boxes were filled with respectable spectators, and the whole area below so crowded with the actors in the motley scene that there was hardly room to move without jostling and shoving, far less to promenade or dance without annoyances, all of an irksome and many of a disgraceful kind. The theatre was beautifully fitted up, and embellished with flowers and illuminations; but of true masquerade wit or humour there was not a particle. The whole was a mass of dissoluteness and profligacy (with perhaps a few merely curious individuals), and between 1 and 2 o'clock the dress-boxes were nearly cleared of their respectable lookers-on. Instead of there being no admissions to the ball-room except in costume or mask, fully one half

were in their every-day dresses—a circumstance alone enough to spoil such an amusement. We noticed one puppy even smoking a cigar! We have said the system was "rapacious." Besides the admissions of unmasked visitors, such restrictions were laid on the transition from one part of the theatre to another, and even on going out and returning, that there was an eternal squabbling and quarrelling and fighting both above and below. The box-keepers, with slight exceptions, would open no door without a bribe: all were full or taken, upon their voracity, though back rows remained unoccupied throughout the night. The prohibition to go out and come back, we heard, was in order to prevent persons from getting refreshments any where but in the house. And such refreshments within the walls we are told they were! They sufficed, however, for the loose characters to get intoxicated with; and after the supper the rampant vice and indecency increased a hundred fold. Till 6 o'clock in the morning these orgies were continued, and an end was put to a public exhibition which would have disgraced ancient Bacchanalian revels or modern African barbarism. May we never see the like again, O Bishop of London!

Penny Theatres.—We are sorry to see so able and so influential a contemporary as the *Examiner*, for the temptation of a piquant *jeu-d'esprit*, take up the cudgels in excuse of the Penny Theatres. Neither in London, nor in the great manufacturing towns throughout the country, does there exist any more fruitful source of vice and crime; and of vice and crime the more to be deplored on account of its being spread among the younger profligates of both sexes. The *Reports on Prisons* and the *Newgate Calendar* are full of the evil consequences of permitting these sinks of pollution and iniquity to entice the simple, the innocent, and the unwary, within their preocious infamy; where girls of tender age, youthful apprentices and servants, and others belonging to higher classes of society, are seduced into every species of guilt, theft, robbery, prostitution, all ending in the transgression of the laws and the various punishment of the unfortunate victims of Penny Theatricals!

BIOGRAPHY.

DIED on the 25th of February, at 26 Osnaburg Street, Regent's Park, aged 73 years, Mr. J. Wright, a native of Norwich. He was the son of a clerk to a manufacturing house in that city, and was apprenticed to his uncle, Mr. J. Roper, a silk-mercant. Habits of business were, however, unsuitable to his taste; and he early evinced a disposition to literary pursuits. Upon the expiration of his apprenticeship, he went to London, and was there engaged as foreman or superintendent at Mr. Hookham's Rooms in Bond Street, where he made the acquaintance of many distinguished literary men of the time. He afterwards entered into business on his own account as a bookseller in Piccadilly; and at

* Among the practical exemplifications of the indecorum which prevailed in every part of this saturnalia a profane lithographed paper was profusely showered down from one of the upper boxes. It began as follows:—

"*Indulgence.* Salve omnes! Amen. In the name of Pope Jullien, and by virtue of authority thereby committed to me for the comfortable recreation and corporal delectation of all faithful sinners in these parts,—I, Father Dunstan, do hereby grant full license, immunity, and indulgence, to you, in any of the several acts of commission, past, present, or future, hereinafter specified; and I do pronounce and declare you absolved from all physical punishment otherwise attaching thereto (*videlicet*): In ogendo, winkendo, kissendo, ticklendo, huggendo" . . . The rest is of the lowest order of indecency, and too gross and beastly for even the Stews.

his house was concocted the celebrated work entitled "The Antijacobin;" and many of the articles were there written. He introduced Mr. Gifford to Mr. Canning and to Mr. Frere, as the editor of the publication; and this, there is many reasons to believe, led to Mr. G. becoming the editor of the "Quarterly Review." As a publisher, Mr. Wright was unsuccessful: he wanted the necessary capital; and he was obliged, therefore, to abandon the trade. He became acquainted with Mr. Cobbett, who speculated upon the publication of a "Parliamentary History;" and Mr. Wright wrote the whole of this work—no part whatever of it proceeding from the pen of Mr. C. They disagreed; a lawsuit was the consequence; and the work merged into Hansard's "Parliamentary Debates," of which Mr. W. became the editor, and had some shares in the work. Mr. W. is also known as the author of a "Life of Mr. Huskisson," which he published, together with the speeches of that statesman, upon his own account; and this speculation was attended with considerable loss, and, indeed, involved him in difficulties from which he never got perfectly emancipated. He was also employed as a sub-editor to many works published by Mr. Murray and Mr. Bentley, of which we may particularly mention Croker's edition of Boswell's "Life of Johnson," "Byron's Works and Illustrations," "Crabbe's Works," "The Chatham Correspondence," and "Sir H. Walpole's Letters," upon which work he was engaged at the time of his decease. But Mr. W.'s chief, and unfortunately unfinished, publication consists of "Sir Henry Cavendish's Debates of the House of Commons during the 13th Parliament of Great Britain, and commonly known as the 'Unreported Parliament.'" These were found among the Bridgewater MSS. in the British Museum, written in short-hand, to which Mr. Wright formed a key, transcribed the debates, and printed them, together with "Illustrations of the Parliamentary History of the Reign of George the Third," drawn from various unpublished letters, private journals, memoirs, &c. In this very important work he did not meet with the support he deserved, though it is admitted on all hands to be ably executed. Lord Brougham has given his testimony to Mr. Wright's ability in his late volume on the statesmen of George III., and also in his place in parliament; and to this nobleman, Hudson Gurney, Esq. (to whom he was also much indebted for liberal acts of regard), and a very few others, Mr. W. was indebted for the means of carrying on his publication. He was a man of amiable manners and strict probity. His accuracy has given a value to all his labours. He was interred at the church of St. Marylebone, and attended to the grave by his friends, Mr. Pettigrew, Mr. Graham, Mr. Todhunter, and Mr. Beale.

Francis Nicholson, Esq.—It is with sincere sorrow we have to announce the death of this truly excellent man and highly distinguished artist, the father of the water-colour school of painting in this country, though at the patriarchal age of ninety-one years. He died on the 6th instant, at his house in Charlotte Street, Portland Place, full of honour and reverence. He was an extraordinary man, and his life is an example of the course of true genius. We use this term that the deductions usually made from the character of genius for eccentricity of conduct, and irregularity of habit, may not be confounded with a word frequently intended to apologise for defects of moral conduct.

Eminent as was Mr. Nicholson's position as an artist, he was no less distinguished for his practical knowledge of mechanics, music (building organs with his own hands), optics, and chemistry; and it was this condensation of scientific knowledge which gave, and which must give, his works permanent value in the history of British art. To illustrate our meaning, and to shew the difficulty that the artist has to contend with against the manufacturer, we may instance the fact, that we have seen a water-colour drawing of Edinburgh by Mr. Nicholson, for which he was paid thirty guineas, and which we do not question, if brought to the hammer, would now be sold for as many shillings. And why? Because the paper on which it was executed had been bleached by acid, which in a very short time destroyed the colours used, and consequently the harmony and beauty of the drawing. But it was subsequently Mr. Nicholson's practice to paint upon unbleached paper, and to use water-colours, the permanent hue of which his experience had established. That his estimate of the result is fully borne out we can confidently assert, from the recent inspection of some of those experimental drawings made between five-and-twenty and five-and-thirty years ago; they are as fresh and beautiful as they were when executed, and for vigour have not been excelled—much as the art of water-colour painting has advanced in England of late years.

After this successful achievement, Mr. Nicholson devoted his time and attention to the advancement of lithography, by which process he executed several hundred drawings; but so rapidly did his publications disappear, having been consumed in schools as subjects to copy from, that even impressions of his works on stone are now rarely to be met with, and it would probably be impossible to form any thing like a complete collection of them.

In the *Foreign Review* (1829) we find the following account of Mr. Nicholson's exertions to diffuse a love of art by means of the lithographic process:—"To the honourable labours of a few artists, who stood isolated from the great body, England is indebted for the advances which the art (of lithography) has hitherto made; for printers, however skilful, without the aid of clever draftsmen could not have effected much. At the head of these artists is Francis Nicholson, the eminent water-colour painter; the number of drawings on stone made by him cannot be estimated at much under eight hundred; and his indefatigable efforts in the cause of lithography deserve particular mention, when the uncertain practice of early printers is considered, by whom designs were generally injured, and very frequently totally spoiled, before a single impression had been obtained."

About the year 1822 Mr. Nicholson published, as a record of his experience, a valuable work on the practice of water-colour painting (4to, Murray), which rapidly passed into a second and an enlarged edition, now out of print.

With this publication he appears to have taken leave of this popular branch of the fine arts, and for the remaining portion of his long and honourable life, having acquired a competency by the exercise of his profession, Mr. Nicholson turned his attention to oil-painting, and amused himself by executing in different vehicles various favourite subjects—in some instances, painting over in oil the most admired water-colour pictures which he possessed, and trying numerous other experiments to enable him to arrive at the most desirable means of

accurately recording with truth the sublime and the beautiful effects of nature.

This devoted love of art burned brightly to the last hour of his life in Mr. Nicholson. Within a very few days of his death he was, at his earnest desire, helped up on a table to retouch a dark cloud in a favourite picture of a shipwreck, which he wished to brighten. The incident is quite poetical; but it is not the less true. And it is curious that the last picture which he painted—the whose mind had loved to study the tumult of waters, and to dwell on the effects of storm and mist—should be a gorgeous sunset, which touched every object with a bright and glorious ray of light.

In his works, indeed, we knew not which most to admire, the taste, the nature, or the genius. His landscapes were truth in subject—the greatest talent in art. But it is no time now to speak of his many excellent qualities. We have often met him at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Crofton Croker, the inheritor also of many of his accomplishments, and lament him as a loss not merely to the British school, but to private friendship.

THE DRAMA.

Her Majesty's Theatre opens to-night with *Adelia*, and one new singer, Corelli, of minor importance, but a grand new ballet from Victor Hugo's "Nôtre Dame," and entitled *La Esmeralda*. Mr. Lumley has certainly been indefatigable in his exertions to secure a continuance of the patronage which justly rewarded his efforts last season.

Drury Lane.—On Thursday a thoroughly crowded house assembled to witness the *début* of the famed French tenor, M. Duprez, in the part of *Arnold*, in the fine, but instrumentally noisy, opera of *William Tell*. He was unfortunate in his companionship with our English singers, who were, some of them, hardly finished enough for their tasks, and Leffler (the *Tell*) so affected by cold as to be unable to support the *débutant* in the concerted pieces. We have, therefore, to criticise M. Duprez under the disadvantage of a broken, instead of a complete, opera, in which, however, his success was very great. His recitative throughout was not striking, but, accompanied by action peculiar to the Parisian stage, and rather extravagant, was the least effective part of his performance. His excellence is found in other efforts, which display much passion and feeling, as in the air, "Ah! Mathilde," the duet with Mathilde, and, indeed, whenever he could introduce a falsetto of exquisite tenderness, and cadences of touching beauty. His greatest triumph was in the trio after the death of his father, which was very exciting and expressive, and followed by the sweetest song in the opera, "Asile héréditaire," which was called for again, but the repetition refused by M. Duprez, who seemed to reserve himself for "Suissez moi," where we detected a decided want of power, though conceived in the finest manner. From this circumstance we presume that we have heard the utmost of what M. Duprez's *physique* is capable, though probably not one half of the sweetness. More charming than wonderful, we think he will rather win upon the public ear than carry it by storm. Miss Romer was unequal, but executed some of her music in a very superior style. A long opera was rendered more tedious by the addition of poor incidental dances.

Haymarket.—On Monday a new two-act drama, called the *Marriage of Reason*, was produced here, which, notwithstanding the most

laudable exertions of Mr. Stuart (who acquitted himself admirably in his character), Webster, Buckstone, Hall, Madame Celeste, and Mrs. Humby, met with more than questionable success. It is, indeed, of the soporific class. A very lively nice little piece was more fortunate on Thursday, called *Der Nacht Teufel*, the music by Mr. German Reed, whose fair lady (late Miss P. Horton), in the principal character, did it a world of service. It was throughout well performed and quite successful. Another arrangement of the *Daughter of the Regiment* has also been represented, with Mrs. Fitzwilliam, and tolerably received.

Adelphi.—A new two-act drama, called *Ubrica*, was produced here on Monday, which bears a strong family resemblance to what are so well known to the public as Adelphi pieces. Mrs. Yates is the heroine, O. Smith a capital German dragoon, and Mr. Hamilton a not very prominent Irishman: the curtain dropt upon a conflict of opinions, but the eyes seemed to have it.

MUSIC.

THE CONTRAPUNTAL AND MUSICAL REVIEW.

The Daily Companion, or Practical and Progressive Exercises on the Harmonised Scales; being a Series of Fifty-nine Characteristic Duets for the Pianoforte in all the Major and Minor Keys; fingered and adapted for the use of Musical Academies, or as useful Diversions for Students. Composed, &c., by J. Moscheles. In two books. London, Cramer, Addison, and Beale.

MANY performers have of late displayed more velocity of fingering than Mr. Moscheles, but we know none of them who could interpret classical music better than he. Although of late he has been in some measure obliged to descend to the modern tessellated mode of execution to meet the tastes of the public, yet it is no easy task for an accomplished musician to excel in a style which is contrary to his better judgment. We hope, therefore, that in future he will retain his own feeling for composition and playing.

Mr. Moscheles has written about 107 productions, in almost all schools in music. His symphonies (the most intricate, poetic, and descriptive style) are excellent; and his vocal and piano-forte music are of a very high order. We should hear with pleasure that Mr. Moscheles contemplated writing a grand opera in three acts, or a grand oratorio; for we are almost positive that his fame would be considerably augmented by any work of this description. The books under our review emanate from one of the soundest musicians residing in England. Whatever style of composition Mr. Moscheles undertakes, the public may rest assured that the master-hand is in it. We are not capable of forming a just estimate of his ability in the strict contrapuntal style, never having seen from his pen any publication of this particular kind; yet, from the learned and pleasing treatment of the "Harmonised Scales," we should be inclined to speak very favourably of him in this respect. These "Scales" are admirably composed and arranged for two performers on the piano-forte. Their variety is truly artistic and delightful, and in them we find imitated, with much success, many styles of music: viz. *à la Savoyarde*, *à la Polacca*, *à la Hongroise*, *à la Handel*, &c.; we should have been glad to have seen one scale treated *à la Bach*, but he is a more difficult master to imitate than any other.

We greatly admire the new design of this

work, being written "for the youngest beginners, as well as for those more advanced in music;" and that for the profession generally it offers "some relief from the usual tediousness of elementary instruction, by their becoming joint performers with their pupils, and having to interpret all the harmonious combinations, whilst they guide the pupil in his practical studies."

Space will not admit of our reviewing each of the fifty-nine characteristic duets (which the author has affectionately dedicated to his youngest daughter, Clara); but we trust that what we have already advanced will be sufficient to shew our high opinion of their excellence, not only as progressive studies for beginners and good performers, but, at the same time, very pleasing music.

It is the first work of the kind ever composed; and we strongly recommend it to all those who desire to learn the pianoforte quickly and agreeably.

••• We propose, in our next, to treat on the causes which influence and regulate the musical taste of the public.

We have lately had the pleasure of hearing, at a trial of works of members of the Society of British Musicians, a stringed quartet by C. E. Stephens, a member of the Contrapuntal Society, which gave us great pleasure, particularly the first movement and the *andante*, which were written in a pleasing and classical school. We wish the Society of British Musicians well; but in our opinion it needs some reforms to entitle it to the unqualified respect of the public.

VARIETIES.

The Booksellers' Provident Institution holds its annual general meeting next Thursday for the election of the president and officers, and other business. By the auditors' report we observe, and with entire satisfaction, that the fund amounted at the close of the year to 12,837. 8s. in the hands of the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, besides a balance of above 100l. in the hands of the treasurer. The relief committee in 1843 expended 195l.; and all the expenses of the institution amounted to only 57l. 8s., including 25l. for collector's salary. A most praiseworthy economy.—*Ed. L. G.*

The New Royal Exchange.—At an entertainment given the other day by the Gresham committee,—which, being without a lecture, was well attended,—Mr. Lambert Jones confirmed our statement a fortnight ago, that the lump of nuisance on the west side would be speedily cleared away, so that the Wellington statue may be insurged on the next anniversary of Waterloo. A handsome compliment was paid to Mr. Westmacott for the sculpture he had executed for the building (which we are sorry we had not time to see in his studio); and the architect, Mr. Tite, was also complimented for keeping time and contract—a rare occurrence in such matters. The negotiations for widening the eastern side to Finch Lane are as yet undetermined. Though in the present case, that of a great public building, there ought, we think, to be no question in regard to a spacious area around it, there is yet something to be said against the general cry for widening every where, and pulling down the narrow streets, lanes, and alleys, of our commercial capital. The custom, which has grown up to be almost universal, of residing in the suburbs renders it the more expedient that the haunts of business should be compact, and lie closely together.

Were all the eastern parts of London to be converted into Portland Places or Portman Squares railroads would hardly suffice to take the active trader to his various appointments, and the work of one day could not be done in three.

General Tom Thumb is receiving private parties at his residence in Grafton Street, where we had the pleasure of paying him a visit, previous to his seeing public company the week after next, should her Majesty meanwhile be gracious enough to give audience to so extraordinary a Yankee general. His name is Stratton (English); and he was born of parents of the common size, in Connecticut, on the 11th of January 1832, when he weighed 9lb. 2oz.: he was at the age of five months, and is now, 15lb. and 25 inches in height. Two sisters, born since, are nice girls. His proportions, his activity, his cheerfulness, his health, and his appetite, are all good; and he hangs by his own grasp upon your two fingers, with more strength and for a longer time than an ordinary youth. His conversation is intelligent and amusing, and his imitations of Napoleon, the Greek statues, &c., most laughably clever in so small a being. An Ajax or a Hercules too feel high! The Nemean Lion should be a 'Possum! He is a wonderful freak of nature, and a curiosity well worth the attention of his bigger fellow-creatures.

Sculptured Statues.—Disappointed are but indifferent critics, and we regret to observe any one of the tribe enabled to mislead opinion by having his writings published in so respectable a paper as the *Spectator*, and thence copied into the *Times*. This was the case last Sunday and Monday with some remarks on the Wellington statues for the east and west of London. This just person asserts that Mr. Wyatt is favoured by a subscription of twice the amount of Chantry's; but he forgets to say that his group is ten times the size in metal. He also quotes Mr. Park for a dictum that bronze is a cheaper material than marble! An assertion of arrant nonsense: but the whole thing is an underhand and disreputable attack on Mr. Wyatt, misrepresenting every circumstance of his great undertaking, and endeavouring to prejudice the public against him. We trust that, in spite of such invidious acts, the Government will inspect the progress he has made with his vast and splendid design, and give him more of that national aid which it so nobly merits.

British Association.—It is highly probable that the British Association will visit Cambridge for the second time in the year 1845. Nothing definite on the subject is arranged; but we have reason to believe that we are perfectly correct in making the above announcement.—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

Copper Ore in Cornwall.—The *West Briton* mentions that a valuable discovery of copper ore has just occurred near Chacewater, where, in removing old stones of fences, they found a considerable number containing tons of copper, which had been thrown out as useless from the workings of old tin mines.

China a Thousand Years ago.—A French journal states, that "there has lately been placed in the principal gallery of the collection of MSS. at Paris an inscription in the Chinese and Syriac languages, of the date of 781, shewing the arrival of Syriac missionaries, and the propagation of Christianity in China in the seventh and eighth centuries. The inscription was found in 1825 in a city of China."

Steam on the Nile.—*Assouan*, Nov. 14.—A letter of this date, written by a German traveller,

gives an interesting account of the first successful attempt by a steamer to ascend the cataraet of the Nile. The steamer came from Cairo in six days, and had on board Achmed Menikli Pasha, the newly appointed governor-general of Soudan.

Holland and Japan.—The Dutch journals announce that the steamer Bromo is about to sail from Helvoetsluis on a voyage to Java and Japan with royal presents for the emperor of the latter, with whom it is thought the recent events in China may render it more easy to establish a valuable international intercourse. The paragraph adds, "All the productions of Europe are highly valued by the inhabitants, and especially Dutch books on the subjects of medicine, geography, and natural history. Dutch is in Japan the language of the learned."

The Caspian Sea.—According to the accounts of the last annual visit to this sea by a Russian ship of war (in the summer of 1843), it appears that in the northern part of it the sand continues to accumulate in some places more and some less, but on the whole this accumulation is already so great that a chart of the Caspian made a few years ago proves to be now quite incorrect. Some of the many arms by which the Volga discharges itself into it are quite dry in consequence of the quantity of slime and sand by which they are choked up.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

McColloch's Commercial Dictionary, new edition, corrected throughout, 8vo, 21. 10s. cloth; 21. 15s. half-bd. russia.—Chess Studies, comprising 1000 Games actually played, selected and arranged by G. Walker, 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Lectures on certain High-Church Principles, commonly designated by the term Puseyism, by T. Mudge, 8vo, 9s.—Sir T. Browne's Religio Medici and Christian Morals, with resembliant Passages from Cowper's Task, post 8vo, 8s.—Rural Scenes, coloured, square, 4s.—Miss Lawrence's Stories from the Old Testament, 16mo, 3s. 6d.—A New Spirit of the Age, edited by R. H. Horne, 2 vols. post 8vo, 24s.—Outlines of Congregationalism, by the Rev. J. P. Pearsons, 2s. 6d.—The Literature of Germany, by F. J. L. Thimm, edited by W. H. Farn, 12mo, 6s. 6d.—The Baptistry, by Augustus, of "The Cathedral," Part 4, 8vo, 7s. 6d.—Sir Charles Bell on the Nerves, 3d edit. 8vo, 7s. 6d.—Sermons on the Duties of Daily Life, by the Rev. F. E. Paget, 12mo, 6s. 6d.—Human Nature: an Essay on the Institution of Reward and Punishment, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—Life of C. Follen, by E. L. Follen, 12mo, 6s. 6d.—Foreign Library, Vol. VI. Blane's History of Ten Years, 1850-40, Vol. I. 8vo, 15s.—Piemont and Thibet's French Dictionary, 2 vols. imp. 4to, 31. 3s. bds.—Meyer's Coloured Illustrations of British Birds, Vol. II., 60 Plates, 8vo, 21. 12s. 6d.—Alison's Outlines of Pathology and Practice of Medicine, Part III., 8vo, 6s.; 3 Parts in 1 vol. 17s. 6d.—Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion, translated by J. Allen, 3 vols. 8vo, 21s.—A Russian's Reply to De Custine's Russia in 1838, post 8vo, 7s. 6d.—Rev. T. E. Hankinson's Lent Lectures on Psalm 23, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—Watt's Scripture History, a new edit. 12mo, 3s. 6d.—Artis Logica Compendium, edition nova, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—Ordo Scriptorum: Treatise on the Chronology of the Holy Scriptures, by H. Browne, M.A., 8vo, 20s.—The Hand-Book of Parriery, by J. Joce, 18mo, 2s. 6d.—Historical Geography of Arabia, by the Rev. C. Forster, 3 vols. 8vo, 30s.—Digest of the Laws relating to Pawnbrokers, by J. M. Gashan, post 8vo, 2s. 6d.—An Essay on the Tongue, by E. Williams, 8vo, 5s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h. m. s.	1844.	h. m. s.
Mar. 9	12 10 42	Mar. 13	12 9 35
10	10 40	14	9 35
11	10 40	15	9 36
12	9 52		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. S. Reay's letter shall be inserted shortly. U. declined with thanks.
ERRATA.—In our last, p. 144, for Maszasuni, read Mazaruni.—Curguni, Cuyuni.—Abilubad, Abibbad.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Princes's Concert Room, Castle Street, Oxford Street.
MR. LOVER'S IRISH EVENINGS.

MR. LOVER will commence, on **WEDNESDAY** the 20th of March, his Illustrations of the National Characteristics and Melody of his country; comprising notices of its early musical history, sketches of popular characters, legendary fragments, song and story; not only those songs which have acquired established popularity, but NEW ONES adapted to the beautiful national airs of Ireland hitherto unknown in England, accompanied by such anecdotes as will exhibit their origin to effect.

Doors open at half-past 7, to commence at 8 precisely. Admission, 3s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. Tickets to be had at all the principal Music shops.

WILSON'S SCOTTISH ENTERTAINMENTS, MUSIC HALL, Store Street.—On **MONDAY** EVENING, March 11, at Eight o'clock, Mr. Wilson will give his **SELECTED ENTERTAINMENT**. Pianoforte, Mr. Land. Songs: My ain Fireside; Saw ye my wee Thing; Auld Robin Gray; The Laird o' Cockpen; Lizzie Lindsay; Scots who has we Wallace bled; Mary Morrison; Get up and bar the door. Part II. Farewell to Lochaber; My bonny Tammy; My Nannie's aye; Allister M'Allister; There's nae luck about the house.

In the press, the Songs in "My Queen of Scots."

Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d.; Back Seats, 2s. Private Boxes for six, 15s.; for eight, 17s.

CHINESE COLLECTION.—FEAST OF LANTERNS REPEATED.—This novel Exhibition, which the public press describes as surpassing in brilliancy of effect all the *fetes* hitherto introduced to the British public, will, in consequence of its extraordinary success, be repeated on **TUESDAY, March 13; THURSDAY, March 14; and SATURDAY, March 16.** On each occasion this Grand National Chinese Ceremony will be increased by the introduction of Original Chinese and English Airs.

"The scene was very beautiful, the effect fully realising that of the Palace of the Genii in the 'Arabian Nights.' The Chinese music was considerably superior to any of European manufacture we have lately heard.—*Morning Chronicle.*"

"At the Chinese Collection the public have an opportunity of spending a Night in China." The large Saloon is decorated with a countless number of Variegated Lanterns, which produce a most enchanting effect, and give a splendour to the scene that could not be equaled by any 'Feast of Lanterns' within the Celestial Empire itself.—*Morning Post.*

In consequence of the inconvenience experienced in obtaining tickets, the admission to the **FEAST OF LANTERNS** will be in future by payment at the door. Admission, One Shilling each Person.

For the public convenience, the number of visitors admitted will be limited. Each Evening's Entertainment will commence at 7, and terminate at 10 o'clock.

E. J. DENT'S PATENT MERIDIAN INSTRUMENT FOR THE REGULATION OF CHRONOMETERS, CLOCKS, AND WATCHES.—Neither previous knowledge of astronomical instruments, nor acquaintance with practical astronomy, are required to enable the observer to regulate with this invention the going of his Watch by the sun or other celestial object to the meridian, and to ascertain the true time. The instrument is only 2 1/2 inches in diameter, and cannot get out of adjustment, nor can it be affected by the weather. Price Two Guineas each.

Sold at 33 Cockspur Street, and 82 Strand, London.

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION IN ORGANIC, AGRICULTURAL, AND GENERAL CHEMISTRY.—MR. FOWLER keeps to announce his readiness to afford Private Instruction in the practice of chemical investigation to Gentlemen who may be desirous of acquiring a knowledge of the science in its relations to organic research, the examination of soils, and the general routine of mineral analysis. The spacious and excellent Laboratory attached to the Middlesex Hospital, Bedford Street, Oxford Street, will be opened for the purpose on the 1st of May next.

Charing Cross Hospital, March 7, 1844.

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